



Former Pakistani prime minister Nawaz Sharif (2R) shakes hands with French Ambassador to Pakistan Regis de Belenet (2L) while Swedish Ambassador Anna Karin Enestrom (L) and Spanish Ambassador Robles Graga (R) look on at Sharif's residence in Raiwind near Lahore yesterday. Pakistan's two main opposition leaders Nawaz Sharif and Benazir Bhutto have failed to overcome key differences preventing them forging a united front ahead of general elections on January 8, 2008.

Pak election can be fair if emergency ends: US

REUTERS, Washington

US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Boucher said on Thursday Pakistan could have an election that was fair, if not perfect, if President Pervez Musharraf lifts its state of emergency on Dec. 16 as promised.

"I do think they can have a good election. They can have a credible election. They can have a transparent election and a fair election," Boucher told a congressional hearing.

"It's not going to be a perfect election," he said. He was asked if Pakistan could have a free election if Musharraf lifted the state of emergency as promised.

Boucher's view contrasts with

that of opposition politicians and rights activists who believe there may be too little time before the Jan. 8 parliamentary contest for a free and fair election and who want Musharraf to reinstate ousted judges.

Pakistani lawyers and former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif took to the streets to demand Musharraf reinstate judges that he fired after imposing emergency rule on Nov. 3 in a crackdown on opposition politicians, the judiciary and the media.

Musharraf has freed more than 5,000 lawyers and opposition activists rounded up after he declared the emergency, but several Supreme Court judges including deposed Chief Justice Iftikhar

Chaudhry are still being held under house arrest.

The two main opposition parties are considering boycotting the vote, moves that would rob it of credibility and prolong instability in a nuclear-armed nation that is crucial to US efforts to fight al-Qaeda and bring peace to Afghanistan.

At the Washington hearing, lawmakers asked Boucher sharp questions about the wisdom of US financial aid to Pakistan and protesters held up critical signs as he spoke, including "Stop Funding Dictators" and "Lies."

Of the country's recent turmoil, Boucher said: "One would not want to have such disruption... this close to any election. That obviously

changes the atmosphere."

But he added that he still believed it was possible to have "an election that really does reflect the choices made by the people of Pakistan."

Tom Malinowski, the Washington advocacy director for Human Rights Watch, questioned this.

"It's hard to imagine how Pakistan can have a credible election without an independent judiciary. If Musharraf can get away with jailing the Supreme Court and removing all checks to his authority, why does the administration trust him to play by the rules in the election?" Malinowski said.

"To whom will the opposition turn if he tries to steal the vote?" he added.

Benazir leaves for Dubai to see children

AFP, Islamabad

Former Pakistani premier Benazir Bhutto left for Dubai early Friday to see her children, her spokesman said, taking time out from campaigning for January 8 elections.

Benazir had planned to leave late Thursday, but the trip was delayed in a mix-up over her passport, spokesman Farhatullah Babar told AFP.

Babar said she had to return from the airport because she was carrying her old passport which had expired.

"She left this morning," he said, adding that she would stay in Dubai for three or four days.

Benazir, who returned to Pakistan from eight years in self-exile on October 18, is leading her opposition party into the January 8 general elections, but has said she may boycott the vote if it is not free and fair.

Bush under fire over Iran's nuke claims

AFP, Washington

The White House Thursday struggled to defend the dire warnings about Iran made by US President George W. Bush even after he had learned that Tehran had likely frozen its atomic weapons programme in 2003.

A new US National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) released on Monday formally endorsed that conclusion, which Bush had first heard about in August from US Director of National Intelligence

Michael McConnell.

On August 28, Bush warned of a "nuclear holocaust" if the Islamic republic developed nuclear weapons, and on October 17 he warned that anyone interested in avoiding "World War III" should support US pressure on Tehran.

On October 21, US Vice President Dick Cheney warned Iran to suspend uranium enrichment or face "serious consequences" -- the very language in the UN resolution on Iraq that the White House says justified the

March 2003 invasion.

On Tuesday, the US president defended himself from Democratic charges of exaggerating the threat by saying that he had only been briefed on the NIE on November 28 and suggesting that McConnell's earlier warning had been vague.

"In August, I think it was, Mike McConnell came in and said, 'we have some new information'. He didn't tell me what the information was. He did tell me it was going to take a while to analyse," Bush told a press conference.

Indian PM hits out at Gujarat leader

AFP, New Delhi

India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh yesterday accused the Hindu nationalist leaders of riot-scarred Gujarat state of fuelling tensions with Muslims ahead of elections there.

At least 2,000 Muslims were killed in widespread riots in the western state in 2002 after Hindu pilgrims were killed in a train fire. The state government and police allegedly supported the riots.

Ahead of polls on December 11 and 16, the state's hard-line chief minister, Narendra Modi, has been accused of trying to score Hindu votes by justify-

ing the alleged murder of a Muslim man by police in 2005.

The state government "has sought to divide the people," Premier Singh told a news conference in Gujarat's Surat city.

"I think that is a big handicap for Gujarat to move forward," the prime minister said, adding it was "not good for any political party to divide our country on communal lines."

On Friday, India's top court said it will take up two complaints against Modi -- a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) -- for making "inflammatory" remarks on the controversial killing, the Press Trust of India reported.

China wins plaudits at UN climate conference

AFP, Nusa Dua

China, one of the world's biggest polluters, won plaudits Friday at a major UN climate change summit for leading the call for rich nations to make deep greenhouse gas emissions cuts.

"If you are looking at this week, here in the negotiations... China in particular has been more positive than previously anticipated," said Matthias Duwe, of the Climate Action Network Europe.

Delegates said that during the

meeting in Indonesia's Bali, China had been a vocal supporter for 25 to 40 percent greenhouse gas emissions cuts for rich nations, and was showing general flexibility in the talks.

"China knows that if there are strong and tough targets for industrialised countries for 2020... it will also mean that developing countries will also show enhanced action," said Stefan Singer from green group WWF.

Artur Runge-Metzger, a senior European Commission delegate,

said that China had been showing signs of moving to clean up their climate credentials over the past year.

"They have clearly said that climate change is something they care very much about," he told reporters.

He said their position boded well for a "good outcome" at the talks in Bali, which aim to lay out a roadmap of negotiations for a new plan to tackle climate change when the current phase of the Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Electrical/Mechanical Division-VII
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

Invitation for Tenders

Memo No: E/M-7-126/2273

Dated: 29-11-07 Eng
15-08-1414 Bang

1. Ministry/Division : Ministry of Housing & Public Works.
2. Agency : Public Works Department.
3. Procuring entity name : Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-VII, Dhaka.
4. Procuring entity code : Not used at present.
5. Procuring entity district : Dhaka.
6. Invitation for : ক) পিএবিএস এন্ড ইন্টারকম সিস্টেম সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।
খ) এলটি ফিডার ক্যাবল সরবরাহ ও সংস্থাপনকরণ কাজ।
7. Invitation Ref No. : Memo No: E/M-7-126/2273.
8. Date : 29-11-2007.

KEY INFORMATION

9. Procurement method : Open tendering method (OTM).

FUNDING INFORMATION

10. Budget and source of fund : GOB.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11. Project/program name : ঢাকার শেরেবাংলা নগর ২৫০ শয্যা বিশিষ্ট জাতীয় চক্ষু বিজ্ঞান ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল ভবন নির্মাণ প্রকল্প।
Tender No. 79 (E/M-VII)/2007-08.
12. Tender package No. : ঢাকার শেরেবাংলা নগর ২৫০ শয্যা বিশিষ্ট জাতীয় চক্ষু বিজ্ঞান ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল ভবন নির্মাণ প্রকল্প।
13. Tender package name : ক) উপ-খাতঃ- পিএবিএস এন্ড ইন্টারকম সিস্টেম সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।
খ) উপ-খাতঃ- বৈদ্যুতিক/যান্ত্রিক কাজের জন্য এলটি ফিডার সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।

14. Tender publication date : 29-11-07.
15. Tender last selling date : During office hours up to 24-12-07.

16. Tender closing date and time : 26-12-2007 12:30pm
17. Tender opening date and time : 26-12-2007 3:00pm

18. Name and address of the office(s) :
- Selling tender document : PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka.
(principal)
- Selling tender document : PWD E/M Division-1/2/3/4/5/6/8/Wood Workshop Division/E/M (others)
- Receiving tender document : PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka.
- Opening tender document : PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka.

19. Eligibility of tenderer : This invitation for tender is open to all eligible tenderers as mentioned below:
a) The tenderer must have up-to-date ABC/BC contractory & supervisory licence from Electrical Licensing Board, Govt of Bangladesh.
b) The tenderer must have up-to-date Income Tax clearance certificate from the NBR with TIN.
c) The tenderer must have up-to-date VAT registration certificate from the NBR.
d) The tenderer must have up-to-date trade licence.
e) Bank solvency certificate with bank statement.
* Attested copies of documents mentioned above in Sl. No. a, b, c, d & e must be submitted along with the tender.

20. Brief description of goods or works : ক) পিএবিএস এন্ড ইন্টারকম সিস্টেম সরবরাহ ও স্থাপন করণ কাজ।
খ) এলটি ফিডার ক্যাবল সরবরাহ ও সংস্থাপনকরণ কাজ।
21. Price of tender document : Tk. 1,000.00 (one thousand) only.

22. Lot No. : Identification of lot : Location : Tender security amount (Tk) : Completion of installation time

23. 01 : ঢাকার শেরেবাংলা নগর ২৫০ শয্যা বিশিষ্ট জাতীয় চক্ষু বিজ্ঞান ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল ভবন নির্মাণ প্রকল্প।
ক) উপ-খাতঃ- পিএবিএস এন্ড ইন্টারকম সিস্টেম সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।
খ) উপ-খাতঃ- বৈদ্যুতিক/যান্ত্রিক কাজের জন্য এলটি ফিডার সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।

24. Tk. 40,000.00 (forty thousand) only : 90 (ninety) days
25. Tk. 66,000.00 (sixty-six thousand) only : 90 (ninety) days

26. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

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