



Former Pakistani prime minister Nawaz Sharif (2R) shakes hands with French Ambassador to Pakistan Regis Belenot (2L) while Swedish Ambassador Anna Karin Enstrom (L) and Spanish Ambassador Robles Graga (R) look on at Sharif's residence in Rawalpindi 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.

PHOTO: AFP

## 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 justifying

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 is 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.

## 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.

"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 during the

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.



An environmental activist (L), dressed up as Santa Claus, takes part in demonstration with others at the venue of the UN Climate Change Conference 2007 in Nusa Dua in Bali yesterday. The UN conference trying to lay the groundwork for a new climate change pact is unlikely to win any binding pledge by the United States to cut greenhouse gas emissions, its head said Yvo de Boer said, adding that the developing nations are also likely to refuse to commit to mandatory targets on cutting emissions blamed for global warming.

PHOTO: AFP

### 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

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) পিএইচএস এবং ইন্টারকম সিস্টেম সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।  
ব) উপ-বাত্ত- পিএইচএস এবং ইন্টারকম সিস্টেম সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ 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 : ঢাকা শেরেবাংলা নগরস্থ ২৫০ শয়া বিশিষ্ট জাতীয় চতুর বিজ্ঞান ইনসিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল ভবন নির্মাণ কাজ।

12. Tender package No. : Tender package 08.

13. Tender package name : ঢাকা শেরেবাংলা নগরস্থ ২৫০ শয়া বিশিষ্ট জাতীয় চতুর বিজ্ঞান ইনসিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল ভবন নির্মাণ 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) : PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka.

- Selling tender document (principal) : PWD E/M Division-1/2/3/4/5/6/8/Wood Workshop Division, Dhaka.

- Selling tender document (others) : PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka.

- Receiving tender document : PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka.

- Opening tender document : PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka.

#### INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

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.

Other required eligibility and conditions of the tenderer are shown in Tender Data Sheet of tender documents and special terms & conditions.

20. Brief description of goods or works : ক) পিএইচএস এবং ইন্টারকম সিস্টেম সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।  
ব) এলটি ফিল্ড ক্যালেক্স সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ 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

01 ঢাকা শেরেবাংলা নগরস্থ ২৫০ শয়া বিশিষ্ট জাতীয় চতুর বিজ্ঞান ইনসিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল ভবন নির্মাণ কাজ।

ক) উপ-বাত্ত- পিএইচএস এবং ইন্টারকম সিস্টেম সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।

ব) উপ-বাত্ত- বেন্দুত্তক্ষয়িক কাজের জন্য এলটি ফিল্ড সরবরাহ ও স্থাপনকরণ কাজ।

23. Name of official inviting tender : Md. Lutful Aziz.

24. Designation of official inviting tender : Executive Engineer.

25. Address of official inviting tender : PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka.

26. Contact details of official inviting tender : Tele No: 8121492

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

Md. Lutful Aziz

Executive Engineer

PWD E/M Division-7, SB Nagar, Dhaka

Phone: 8121492

## Saudi Arabia, US do least for climate

AFP, Berlin

shifted from the days when Bush shunned the dictator.

The letter might satiate Kim's craving to be recognised by the US as a player on the world stage. However, White House press secretary Dana Perino said Bush meant it as a "reminder" to North Korea that it has pledged to provide by the end of the month a complete and accurate disclosure of its nuclear programs.

A senior administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to disclose the contents of the letter, said Bush indicated to Kim that if North Korea does what it has agreed to do, and the Korean peninsula is denuclearised, then that will ultimately lead to normalisation.

The Bush administration sought to play down the diplomatic significance of the letter the president's first to the reclusive North Korean leader. Yet, it reflected how US policy toward the nation has

fewer places to second bottom. The report had sharp criticism for Australia, which slid to 54th in the list from 47th last year.

Germanwatch said Australia had "more and more deviated from the necessary reduction targets as stated in the UN Framework for Convention on Climate Change" under former prime minister John Howard's 11 years in charge.

It expressed hope for an improvement under his successor Kevin Rudd, who ratified the Kyoto Protocol on cutting greenhouse gases in one of his first acts in office this week.

Saudi Arabia retained its last

place finish from last year in the rankings, but the United States

finally secured an invitation to the summit despite Brown's best efforts to block him.

European Commission president Jose Manuel Barroso has said the subject of Zimbabwe should not overshadow the summit although he promised Thursday that allegations of rights abuses would not be swept under the carpet.

There has been a very negative trend in the Zimbabwe regime and this is something we will have to broach," Barroso said. "But this is not just a summit to look at Zimbabwe."

Europeans see the summit as an opportunity to forge a partnership of equals and banish the master and servant relationship to the colonial history books.

"We need to consider this summit as a launchpad for a new era in the relationship between Europe and Africa," said EU Development Commissioner Louis Michel.

The leaders of Africa and Europe gathered in Lisbon Friday for a summit designed to forge a new era in ties, but which is in danger of being overshadowed by the presence of Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe. The two-day summit in the Portuguese capital -- the first such get-together in seven years -- is set to be dominated by issues such as trade, immigration, the environment and human rights when it formally begins Saturday morning.

But the presence of Mugabe at Friday's gala dinner and subsequent no-show by British Prime Minister Gordon Brown will serve as a reminder of the complexity of ties between Europe and their one-time colonies.

Mugabe, usually banned from the European Union for allegedly rigging his 2002 re-election, flew into Lisbon late Thursday after

GD-442

Salary, bonus, gratuity, and other benefits are based on Danida's Service Rules for locally recruited staff. Applications including full CV, photo, copies of degree certificates, and clearly stating the name of the position applied for on the envelope, may be submitted to Senior Adviser, "Strengthening Institutional Capacity of DoF" Project; Department of Fisheries; Matshya Bhaban, Ramma, Dhaka-1000. Only short-listed candidates will be notified. Any attempts to unduly influence the selection and recruitment process will be considered as disqualification.

Strengthening Institutional Capacity of DoF" Project; Department of Fisheries; Matshya Bhaban, Ramma, Dhaka-1000 by 24 December 2007. Only short-listed candidates will be notified. Any attempts to unduly influence the selection and recruitment process will be considered as disqualification.