

Violence erupts in Tibet capital

Buddhist monks lead protests

AFP, AP, Beijing

The Tibetan capital Lhasa erupted in violence yesterday as security forces used gunfire to quell Buddhist monk-led protests that saw markets and cars set alight, witnesses and rights groups said.

The violence, which left at least a dozen people hospitalised with injuries, came amid an ever-growing campaign by Tibetans to challenge China's rule of the Himalayan region in the lead-up to the Beijing Olympics in August.

Foreign tourists and a local Tibetan reported hearing gunfire in Lhasa as riot police and soldiers were sent in to quell the uprising.

At least a dozen people were injured and taken to hospital, a nurse at one hospital there told AFP.

The violence in downtown Lhasa also saw a number of shops being set on fire at about 2:00 pm (0600 GMT), the official Xinhua news agency reported.

Angry protesters set shops ablaze and gunfire was reported in Tibet's regional capital yesterday as the largest demonstrations in two decades against Chinese rule turned violent just months ahead of the Beijing Olympics.

The protests, in their fifth day and led by monks supporting Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, threatened to cast a shadow over China's efforts to portray a unified and prosperous nation in the run-up to the games.

Protesters set shops and police vehicles on fire in Lhasa, state media and witnesses said. The U.S. Embassy in Beijing warned Americans to stay away, saying it had "received firsthand reports from American citizens in the city who report gunfire and other indications of violence."

Britain voiced concern to Beijing Friday at an outbreak of violence in the Tibetan capital Lhasa in protest at continued Chinese rule, a spokesman said.

The protests are the largest and most sustained in Lhasa since Beijing crushed a wave of pro-independence demonstrations in 1989. Since then, China has invested in the region, vilified the Dalai Lama and tried to weed out his supporters among the influential Buddhist clergy.

A Lhasa resident, who asked to be unnamed for fear of government reprisal, said military police had closed all roads leading to the city centre.

Iran votes for new parliament

Reformists sidelined by conservatives

AFP, Tehran

Iran voted yesterday in elections expected to tighten the grip of conservatives on parliament after a low-key campaign and the mass disqualification of reformist candidates by a hardline vetting body.

Reformists are only able to contest around half of the 290 seats up for grabs after the Guardians Council vetoed hundreds of their candidates for being deemed insufficiently loyal to the Islamic revolution.

The sidelining of reformists means it will be difficult to use the vote as a barometer of controversial President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's popularity, despite discontent over inflation rates of almost 18 percent.

A reformist leader yesterday said he was concerned about "some irregularities" in Iran's parliamentary elections but expressed hope that the interior ministry was taking action.

"There are concerns regarding some irregularities by willful people to do something with the ballot boxes," Mehdi Karubi, head of

the reformist Etemad-e Melli party told reporters at the interior ministry.

He said that he had received sporadic reports of individuals inside polling stations handing voters lists of the candidates and telling them to vote for these names.

Top officials and state media have made every effort to emphasise the importance of a massive turnout to show national unity at a time of mounting tension with the West over the Iranian nuclear programme.

State television was playing patriotic music against a backdrop of pictures of Iran's ancient heritage and long queues of people voting in past elections in a bid to show the importance of the election.

"For our country and our nation this is a critical moment and day," said supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as he voted in Tehran. "The election is a time that determines the fate of a nation."

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who rushed from an Islamic summit in Senegal to vote,

proclaimed that the world had chosen Iran as its "role model and saviour."

Khatami's main reformist coalition is fielding only 150 candidates nationwide while the more centrist National Confidence party of ambitious cleric Mehdi Karubi has 165.

The authorities were keen to see as little inter-factional squabbling as possible amid the nuclear crisis with the West and banned groups from putting up large election posters of their candidates.

Results are not expected quickly, with officials saying they should be ready by the New Year holidays, which start on March 19.

Conservatives have split into "Broad" and "Unified" factions, with the former seen as less enthusiastic about the populist policies of Ahmadinejad although there is considerable overlap between the two.

Analysts say it is impossible to predict whether Ahmadinejad -- who retains considerable support in the provinces -- will win 2009 elections to continue one of the most controversial presidencies in Iran's history.



PHOTO: AFP

Iranian women line up to cast their ballots at a polling station in the Shiite holy shrine of Massoumeh, the daughter of Reza, the eighth Shiite Imam in Qom, 120 kms south of Tehran yesterday. Iran voted in elections expected to tighten conservative grip on parliament after a low-key campaign and the mass disqualification of reformist candidates by a hardline vetting body.



PHOTO: AFP

Tibetans throw stones at army vehicles as a car burns on a street in the Tibetan capital Lhasa after violent protests broke out on yesterday. Demonstrations this week against Chinese rule escalated following three days of protests by monks in Lhasa, which have spread to monasteries in rural Tibet and outside the province.

Chad, Sudan sign peace deal

AFP, Dakar

The presidents of Sudan and Chad have signed a non-aggression pact, vowing not to support rebel attacks against each other, many of which were launched from troubled Darfur.

The accord made late Thursday by Sudan's President Omar al-Beshir and Chad counterpart Idriss Deby is the sixth they have agreed in five years and came only after intense international pressure.

The arch rivals signed the accord and shook hands in the presence of UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and Senegal's President Abdoulaye Wade.

Wade is hosting a summit of the 57-nation Organisation of the Islamic Conference in Dakar.

Beshir and Deby accuse each other of backing rebels seeking to overthrow their governments and there have been several clashes between their armies.

The text of the deal, released by Senegal's Foreign Minister Cheikh Tidiane, said "we solemnly engage to prohibit all activity by armed groups and to stop the use of our respective territories for the destabilisation of one or other of our states." But the main innovation in the sixth accord is the creation of a contact group -- made up of Libya, Congo, Senegal, Gabon and Eritrea -- that will meet once a month to make sure both sides keep to the new pact.

Sudan's Foreign Minister Deng Alor Kuol played down the importance of the new deal saying it was "complementary to the previous accords which had no control mechanism."

The two leaders had "reaffirmed their respect for past engagements" so they could "definitively end the differences between the two countries and restore peace and security in the sub-region."

Gaza lull ends as Israel attacks

AFP, Gaza City

Israeli warplanes hit Hamas-run Gaza late Thursday after militants rattled the Jewish state with rocket fire, ending a five-day lull and threatening efforts to push forward Middle East peace talks.

The violence flared within hours of an Israeli operation on Wednesday in the West Bank town of Bethlehem, where undercover special forces killed four Palestinian militants, including two senior commanders.

Militants in the Hamas-run territory fired a dozen rockets into the Jewish state during the night, Israeli warplanes struck targets in northern Gaza early during the day and gunmen fired another dozen rockets afterward, according to the army and the militant groups.

There were no casualties, but the renewed tit-for-tat attacks put at risk international efforts to broker a more permanent deal to end the violence and the isolation around the impoverished territory.

They also came a day before the Israelis and Palestinians are to meet with a US general to resume peace talks that Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas suspended amid a week of strikes in Gaza that killed more than 130 Palestinians, including children and other civilians.

Addressing the summit of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in Dakar on Thursday, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon condemned Israel's "inappropriate and disproportionate use of force" and called on the Jewish state to stop strikes that end up killing civilians.

Senegal's President Abdoulaye Wade, head of the OIC for the next year, said he would make efforts to end the Middle East conflict his

number one priority.

He also urged a ceasefire but called on Israel to end "all of its illegal activities in the occupied territories ... the blind repression inflicted on the Palestinian people."

After the Bethlehem raid, the Palestinian presidency accused Israel of "barbaric crimes" in a rare harshly worded statement.

Egypt has been holding talks aimed at ending Israeli strikes on Gaza, rocket fire into Israel and a lifting of a crippling regime of Israeli and international sanctions on the coastal strip, one of the world's most densely-populated places where most people depend on aid.

The violence in and around the Gaza Strip, where Hamas seized power in June after routing forces loyal to Abbas, has cast a shadow over peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians that were revived at a US conference in November.

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বেসরকারীভাবে আমদানিকৃত গম থেকে ৫০,০০০ (পঁচাত্তর হাজার) মে টন গম ক্রয়ের পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (জাতীয়)

১	মন্ত্রণালয় / বিভাগ	স্বাস্থ্য ও দুর্গোপ ব্যবস্থাপনা মন্ত্রণালয়				
২	এজেন্সী	স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর				
৩	সম্মোহন সত্ত্বার নাম	মহাপরিচালক				
৪	সম্মোহন সত্ত্বার কোড	এমোজি নং				
৫	সম্মোহন সত্ত্বার জেলা	ঢাকা				
৬	যে পদার্থের জন্য দরপত্র	বেসরকারীভাবে আমদানিকৃত গম থেকে ৫০,০০০ (পঁচাত্তর হাজার) মে টন গম ক্রয়ের পুনঃ দরপত্র (জাতীয়)				
৭	দরপত্রের সূত্র ও তারিখ	সপ/সিএস/স্বাস্থ্য/দরপত্র/গম-৮৯/০৮/০৩৬, ১০/০২/২০০৮খ্রিঃ				
৮	সম্মোহন পদ্ধতি	উদ্ভুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (জাতীয়)				
৯	ব্যাংকটি ও তারিখের সূত্র	রাজস্ব ব্যাংক, বাংলাদেশ সরকার।				
১০	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তকাল নং	১২/২০০৭-০৮				
১১	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তকালের নাম	বেসরকারীভাবে আমদানিকৃত গম থেকে ৫০,০০০ (পঁচাত্তর হাজার) মে টন গম ক্রয়।				
১২	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের শেষ তারিখ	১৫/০৮/০৮ খ্রিঃ				
১৩	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	৩০/০৮/০৮ খ্রিঃ				
১৪	দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময়	৩১/০৮/০৮ খ্রিঃ				
১৫	দরপত্র ফোলার তারিখ ও সময়	৩১/০৮/০৮ খ্রিঃ				
১৬	দরপত্র বিক্রয়কারীর দপ্তরের নাম	পরিচালক, হিসাব ও অর্থের দপ্তর, ক্রম নং-৪০১, ৫ম তলা, বাসা অধিদপ্তর, ১৬, আব্দুল গণি রোড, ঢাকা।				
১৭	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী দপ্তরের নাম	পরিচালক, সার্বভৌম দপ্তর, ক্রম নং-৫০১, ৬ষ্ঠ তলা, বাসা অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা-১০০০।				
১৮	দরপত্র উদ্ভুক্তকারী দপ্তর	সংশ্লিষ্ট কক, কক নং-১০৪, ২য় তলা, বাসা ভবন, বাসা অধিদপ্তর, ১৬, আব্দুল গণি রোড, ঢাকা।				
১৯	দরপত্র দাতার যোগ্যতা	গম আমদানীকারক (দরপত্র সিডিউলের শর্তাবলী অনুযায়ী)।				
২০	পূরণের সুশিক্ষিত কর্মী	বেসরকারীভাবে আমদানিকৃত গম, ২০০৭ সাল অথবা পরবর্তী উপপদিস্ত গম (টেন্ডার সিডিউলের বিনিয়োগ মোতাবেক)				
২১	অনুসন্ধানিক সেবার বিবরণ	ক্রয় কেন্দ্রে দরদাতাকে নিজ ব্যবস্থাপনায় ও দায়িত্বে গম বুঝাইয়া দিতে হবে।				
২২	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	২,০০০/- টাকা প্রতি সেট (যে কোন সংখ্যক সেটের জন্য এক সেট সিডিউল প্রযোজ্য)। কার্যে রপ্তান মূল্য বিক্রয়যোগ্য।				
২৩	লট নং	ক্রয় কেন্দ্র ও জেলা	পরিমাণ (মে টন)	প্যাকিং এর ধরন	টেন্ডার সিডিউলটির পরিমাণ (টাকায়)	সরবরাহকাল
	১	চট্টগ্রাম সাইলো, চট্টগ্রাম	৩০,০০০	মুগা গম	১৪০০০০০০	মুক্তি স্বাক্ষরের তারিখ হতে ৪৫ (পঁয়তাল্লিশ) দিনের মধ্যে।
	২	নারায়ণগঞ্জ সাইলো, নারায়ণগঞ্জ	১০,০০০	"	৬৪০০০০০০	"
	৩	ঢাকা সাইলো, ঢাকা	১০,০০০	"	৫০০০০০০০	"
	মোট		৫০,০০০		২৬৪০০০০০০	
২৪	দরপত্রের মেয়াদ	দরপত্র ফোলার তারিখ থেকে ৩০ (ত্রিশ) দিন।				
২৫	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম	মেজ আব্দুল হামিদ				
২৬	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	পরিচালক (সার্বভৌম),				
২৭	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা	পরিচালক (সার্বভৌম), বাসা অধিদপ্তর, ক্রম নং- ৫০১, ৬ষ্ঠ তলা, ১৬, আব্দুল গণি রোড, ঢাকা।				
২৮	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার সাথে যোগাযোগের তথ্যাবলী	ফোন	ফ্যাক্স	ই-মেইল/ওয়েব		
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 বাসা অধিদপ্তর
 ১৬, আব্দুল গণি রোড, ঢাকা।
 ফোন : ৮৮০-০২-৯৫৫০২৬১

GD-1190

Queen unveils 5th Heathrow terminal

AFP, London

Queen Elizabeth II yesterday unveiled a new terminal at London's main Heathrow airport, a day after a major security breach disrupted flights.

Terminal Five (T5) will be able to handle 30 million passengers a year, and opens as campaigners step up protests over plans for a third runway at the airport.

It was unclear if Thursday's alert, in which a man scaled a perimeter fence and ran on to a runway, was designed as a protest. Police carried out a controlled explosion of two bags dropped by the man.

But security was tight for Friday's ceremony with the queen, after threats by campaigners to stage a new demonstration timed

with the terminal's opening to the public.

The 81-year-old monarch opened the first passenger terminal at the site west of London in 1955.

Construction of T5, which will open to passengers on March 27, has taken nearly six years and cost some 4.3 billion pounds (8.7 billion dollars, 5.6 billion euros) to build.

The new building has involved the construction of 13 miles (21 kilometres) of tunnels, 10 miles of baggage conveyor belts, and the extension of the Piccadilly Tube line to transport passengers to and from central London.

Heathrow is already one of the world's biggest airports, but has for years been plagued by overcrowding in its hotch-potch of ageing buildings due to soaring demand for air travel.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board
Office of the Director (Procurement), Telephone Revenue Bhaban
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
No. DP/L-10/IT/07-08/Mtc/Part/7 Date: 10-03-2008

Sub-: Postponement Notice of Local Tender No. DP/L-10/IT/07-08/Mtc/3
Dated: 11-02-2008 for Supply, Installation, Testing of 80M Green Field Self-supported Tower in Borguna Telephone Exchange Compound on Turnkey Basis.

Due to the unavoidable circumstances, closing & opening date of the abovementioned tender has been postponed.

Any further action will be conveyed later on.

Dy. Director (Local Procurement)
GD-1238 Phone: 8150700