



French KFOR soldiers shoot at Kosovo Serbs during clashes in the ethnically divided town of Kosovska Mitrovica yesterday. Scores of UN police officers and NATO soldiers were wounded in an explosion yesterday as they stormed a courthouse occupied by Serb protesters in this flashpoint Kosovo town, Kosovo police said. The UN had to withdraw from the courthouse in the process.

## Russia urges int'l talks on Kosovo

AFP, Moscow

Russia yesterday called for a return to international talks on the status of Kosovo, saying the latest unrest was a result of the territory's unilateral independence declaration.

"It's clear that the situation can only be normalised by returning the Kosovo process to the framework of international law, with the aim of finding a mutually acceptable solution based on dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina," Russia's foreign ministry said in a statement.

## Iran slams EU's stance on its polls

AFP, Tehran

Tehran furiously accused the European Union of unacceptable behaviour and political manipulation yesterday after the bloc issued a statement describing Iranian parliamentary elections as unfair.

"The issuing of this statement by the EU presidency is hasty, has political intentions and is opportunistic and unacceptable. It is to be condemned," foreign ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Hosseini said in a statement.

The European Union's Slovenian presidency had said that Friday's election "was neither fair nor free".

Iran, by contrast, has hailed the "glorious" participation of over 60 percent of the electorate as a message to its enemies.

## Serb demonstrators chase UN police out of Kosovo city

AFP, BBC ONLINE, Kosovo City

United Nations police in Kosovo have been forced to withdraw from Serbian areas in the divided city of Mitrovica after clashes with Serb demonstrators.

More than 22 UN police and at least eight Nato peacekeepers were wounded in grenade and gun attacks after they moved in to regain control of a UN-run tribunal that had been occupied since Friday by protesters.

Nato troops - who used tear gas as they faced gunfire, stones and petrol bombs - have now taken control of security.

The violence is the worst since Kosovo's unilateral declaration of independence last month.

Kosovo police spokesman Beshim Hoti said an explosion erupted as UN police moved in to arrest more than 50 Serbs who had been occupying the building in protest at Kosovo's month-old declaration of independence.

Machinegun fire was later heard and at least one member of the international security forces was shot, a witness said, leading to an order for UN forces to withdraw from the Serb-populated northern half of the ethnically divided town.

The use of weapons makes the violence the worst to have erupted

in Kosovo since its ethnic Albanian-dominated parliament unilaterally declared independence from Serbia on February 17.

Fifty-three of the Serbs were arrested, Elshani told AFP.

A group of some 300 Serbs opposed to Kosovo's independence stormed the UN-run courthouse on Friday. Negotiations with United Nations officials failed over the weekend, and the Serbs refused to leave the premises.

The demonstrators -- many of whom worked in Kosovo's judiciary before the territory came under the administration of the United Nations in 1999 -- said they wanted to set up their own court.



Iranian foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki (R) speaks during a joint press conference with his Swiss counterpart Micheline Calmy-Rey (L) after signing a gas agreement in Tehran yesterday. Iran and Switzerland signed a major gas agreement for the export of Iranian gas to a Swiss company, in a rare energy deal between Tehran and the West amid the continued nuclear crisis.

## As McCain burnishes his image, are Democrats tarnishing theirs?

AFP, Washington

Republican White House hopeful John McCain profited from Democratic infighting to project statesman-like credentials on a trip to Iraq ahead of the US-led invasion's fifth anniversary.

While the war remains deeply unpopular in the United States, McCain was able to flag his national-security experience by leaving the campaign fracas behind on a surprise trip to Baghdad.

The campaigns of Democrats Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton kept up their warring, as the former first lady prepared Monday to deliver a "major policy address" on Iraq ahead of Thursday's anniversary.

Hillary's White House campaign lashed out Sunday after a report said rival Barack Obama was preparing a "full assault" on her after unloading some embarrassments to his own campaign.

The feud over the report in the Democrat's hometown newspaper, the Chicago Tribune, came as Republican nominee-elect John McCain polished his national security credentials on a surprise trip to Iraq.

"It is disappointing that a campaign that began by promising a politics of hope has come to this,

that it is signaling and reveling in attacks on Senator Hillary's character," her communications director Howard Wolfson said.

"This is not the campaign they promised us," he said on a conference call.

The Tribune noted that Obama was now distancing himself from his fiery Chicago pastor, who argues in a newly unearthed video that the September 11 attacks of 2001 showed that "America's chickens are coming home to roost."

The Illinois senator had also sat down Friday for a grilling from Chicago reporters about his past ties to a city property developer, Antoin "Tony" Rezko, who is on trial for corruption in public contracts.

The Tribune report said Obama was "trying to air his dirty laundry" as he prepares a full assault on Senator Hillary Clinton over ethics and transparency. "It did not spell out what form that assault might take."

But earlier Sunday, Obama aides kept up a barrage of questioning over Hillary's tax returns, her records from her White House days, and possible ties to donors who gave generously to her husband Bill's presidential library.

"The Hillary campaign says she has been fully vetted but the truth

is she is a veteran of non-disclosure," Obama chief strategist David Axelrod said.

"All of this has created a sense that there are things she wants the public not to know," he said.

And addressing the Hillary camp's battle to seat delegates from the pariah states of Florida and Michigan, Axelrod said: "You get the feeling they are literally trying to do anything to win this nomination."

The feistier tone between the campaigns belied a truce over Obama's pastor with Hillary supporters passing up repeating opportunities to decry the inflammatory language of Reverend Jeremiah Wright, who said in the newly disclosed video that the 9/11 attacks were brought on by US "terrorism."

House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the country's highest ranking elected Democrat, ruled out a "dream ticket" combining Obama and Hillary and said the party's nominee should be whoever leads in the final delegate count.

That would appear to favor Obama, while The New York Times reported that many Democratic "superdelegates" are loath for party grandees to overturn the will of the majority of voters at the August convention in Denver.

In the race for pledged delegates, Obama enjoys a lead of about 170 over Hillary. He has won double the number of states and is ahead in the national popular vote.

Speaking on ABC News, Pelosi said "if the votes of the superdelegates overturn what happened in the elections, it would be harmful to the Democratic Party."

"This is going to be over before we go to the convention... pretty soon, somebody will be far enough in front that this will come to an end," she said.

The next battle in the Democrats' nominating epic is Pennsylvania on April 22. But Obama is already campaigning in Indiana, which votes on May 6 along with North Carolina, in a sign that the race has weeks to go yet.

Hillary, dogged by her 2002 vote authorising military force in Iraq, was due to give what her campaign called a "major policy address" on the war late last night in Washington. The US-led invasion's fifth anniversary looms Thursday.

On CNN, Democratic Senator Patrick Leahy accused McCain of heading over for a taxpayer-funded "photo op" instead of asking "hard questions" of the Iraqi government.

## 2 killed in Baghdad bomb blast

AFP, Baghdad

An explosion rocked central Baghdad yesterday, minutes after US Vice President Dick Cheney arrived in the Iraqi capital on a surprise visit.

The blast occurred around 9:00 am (0600 GMT), about 45 minutes after Cheney touched down in Baghdad. Earlier, a roadside bombing targeting a police patrol killed one policeman and wounded another in Baghdad's western Al-Mansur neighbourhood, a security official said.

## Rice, Gates in Moscow for talks

AFP, Moscow

Top US officials Condoleezza Rice and Robert Gates arrived in Moscow yesterday for sensitive talks on missile defence with President Vladimir Putin and his successor in waiting Dmitry Medvedev.

The talks were a first chance since Russia's presidential polls for Secretary of State Rice and Defence Secretary Gates to gauge the transition process in Russia and the extent to which Putin will continue to wield influence.

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ICDDR,B invites applications from suitable female candidates for the position of **Daycare Supervisor** with Human Resources under the Executive Director's Division at Dhaka. Appointment will be made on a fixed-term basis for 2 years, which may be renewable depending on performance and availability of funds.

**Salary** - Annual Salary - Tk.218,270/- inclusive of house rent and conveyance allowances with other admissible benefits.

**Benefits/facilities** - 14.8% retirement fund contribution by the Centre, Children allowance @Tk.1,420/- per child per month, medical facilities for dependent spouse and children, free group life insurance, and subsidized transport, canteen and daycare facilities.

### Job Profile

- Training and supervision of daycare staffs;
- Implement a structured daily programme of activities for the children;
- Ensure proper maintenance of Daycare facilities;
- Prepare staff roster;
- Ensure all other quality standards for the daycare are met;
- Share information with parents.



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- Masters in any discipline with good academic records;
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- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills; the person must be skilled in interacting/dealing with children from age 1 month to 4 years;
- Should have good command in MS Office package;
- Proficiency in written and spoken English and Bangla;
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills are essential.

Interested female candidates who fulfill the requirements should submit **online applications** using ICDDR,B website; however, candidates may also submit applications with bio-data detailing experience and other particulars along with a recent passport size photograph to **Manager, Human Resources, Box No. A-53, C/O. The Daily Star, 19, Kauran Bazar, Dhaka-1215 by March 25, 2008.** Internal candidates must mention their ID #s in the application.

### Special information

Any persuasion will disqualify the candidature. Only short-listed candidates shall be invited for the interview. Please write the position applied for at the top of the envelope. Test and interview will be held at Dhaka.

Visit ICDDR,B website on: [www.icddr.org](http://www.icddr.org)

## CAREER OPPORTUNITY

**Southeast Bank Limited** is a second generation leading private commercial Bank with a vision to be a leading financial institution in the country. The Bank has a diverse array of carefully tailored customer friendly products and financial services in the Bank which unite our people and result in continuous growth in every aspect of Bank's operations.

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S/N	Specialized Business Segments	Name of the Post
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04	Trade Finance (Import)	
05	Trade Finance (Export)	
06	General Banking	
07	Islamic Banking (Investment)	
08	Islamic Banking (Trade Finance)	
09	Treasury (Front, Middle & Back Office)	
10	Internal Control and Compliance	

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### The following Training Courses will be offered by BIM in APRIL, 2008.

Name of Course	Duration With Time	Venue/ Course Fee	Course Coordinator & Contact Number
1. Winning Markets through Market-Oriented Strategic Planning	Mar-30-Apr-10 17:00-21:00	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Uttam Kumar Datta Cell : 01715-782054
2. Time Management	April 06 09:00-17:00	Dhaka Tk. 1,350/-	AH Mostafa Kamal Khan
3. Office Management with Computer Application	April 06-17 17:30-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 6,600/-	Parveen Agaz Cell : 01911-421644 ABM Rashedul Hassan Cell : 01913-621449
4. Social Compliance in relation to Labour Laws	April 06-10 09:30-17:30	Dhaka Tk. 3,900/-	Md. Mahbub ul Alam & Akhund A.S. Alam Cell : 01819-113406
5. Managing 7Ps for Effective Marketing	April 06-17 17:00-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Farhana Ahmed Cell : 01715-261056
6. Training of Trainers	April 13-24 17:00-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Sonia Sharif
7. Personnel Management and Industrial Relations	April 20-30 17:00-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Zahangir Alam Khan Cell : 01718-154680 Cell : 01817-562642
8. Financial Diagnosis	April 20-30 17:00-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Indrajit Chandra Bardhan Cell : 01819-171599
9. Effective Human Relations for Better Management	April 20-24 17:00-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 3,900/-	Md. Mahbub ul Alam Cell : 01819-113406
10. Computer Application Foundation	April 20-May 4 17:00-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 4,700/-	Md. Tariqul Islam Cell : 01716-335801

Courses mentioned above are suitable for Managers/Executives of public and private sector organizations including NGOs and interested educated young people not yet in service but want to develop managerial abilities.

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## RE-TENDER NOTICE

Ref. No.: Purchasing/Civil/02/2008/09 (R)

Date: 16/03/08

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited for the following work at KAFCO, Rangadia, Chittagong from the 1st class Construction Contractors of any Government, semi Government, Autonomous bodies or multinational companies having enlistment certificate renewed up to current year and experiences in Civil and building construction works worthing minimum of Tk.30.00 lacs under single Work Order within last 2(Two) years in Government, Semi Government, Autonomous bodies or Multinational Companies.

### Name of Work :

Extension of Officers' Club at KAFCO Housing Colony, Anowara, CTG.

Cost of Tender Document: Tk.1,500.00 per set (non refundable).

Tender documents will be available from the office of the Finance Department of KAFCO, Rangadia, Anowara, Chittagong and KAFCO Corporate Office, IDB Bhaban, 13th floor, E/8-A, Rokeya Sharani, Dhaka during office hours from 19 March to 27 March 2008. Sealed Tenders will be received in the Tender box at KAFCO Rangadia, Anowara, Chittagong and KAFCO Corporate Office, IDB Bhaban, 13th floor, E/8-A, Rokeya Sharani, Dhaka up to 2.30 P.M. of 02 April 2008 and will be opened at KAFCO Rangadia, Anowara, Chittagong at 12.00 Hours on 03 April 2008 in presence of Tenderer or their authorized representatives, if any.

Earnest money @ 2.5% of the quoted amount in favour of KAFCO in the form of PO/DD from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh shall be furnished along with the tender. The tender will be rejected in case of lack of requisite experience and if proper earnest money and other documents are not submitted. The successful Tenderer will have to furnish additional security money @ 2.5% of the order amount before issuance of the work order.

KAFCO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders including the lowest bid without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

**Md. Mahbub-Ul-Alam**  
General Manager, Procurement