

## Thai PM mulling amendments to the Constitution

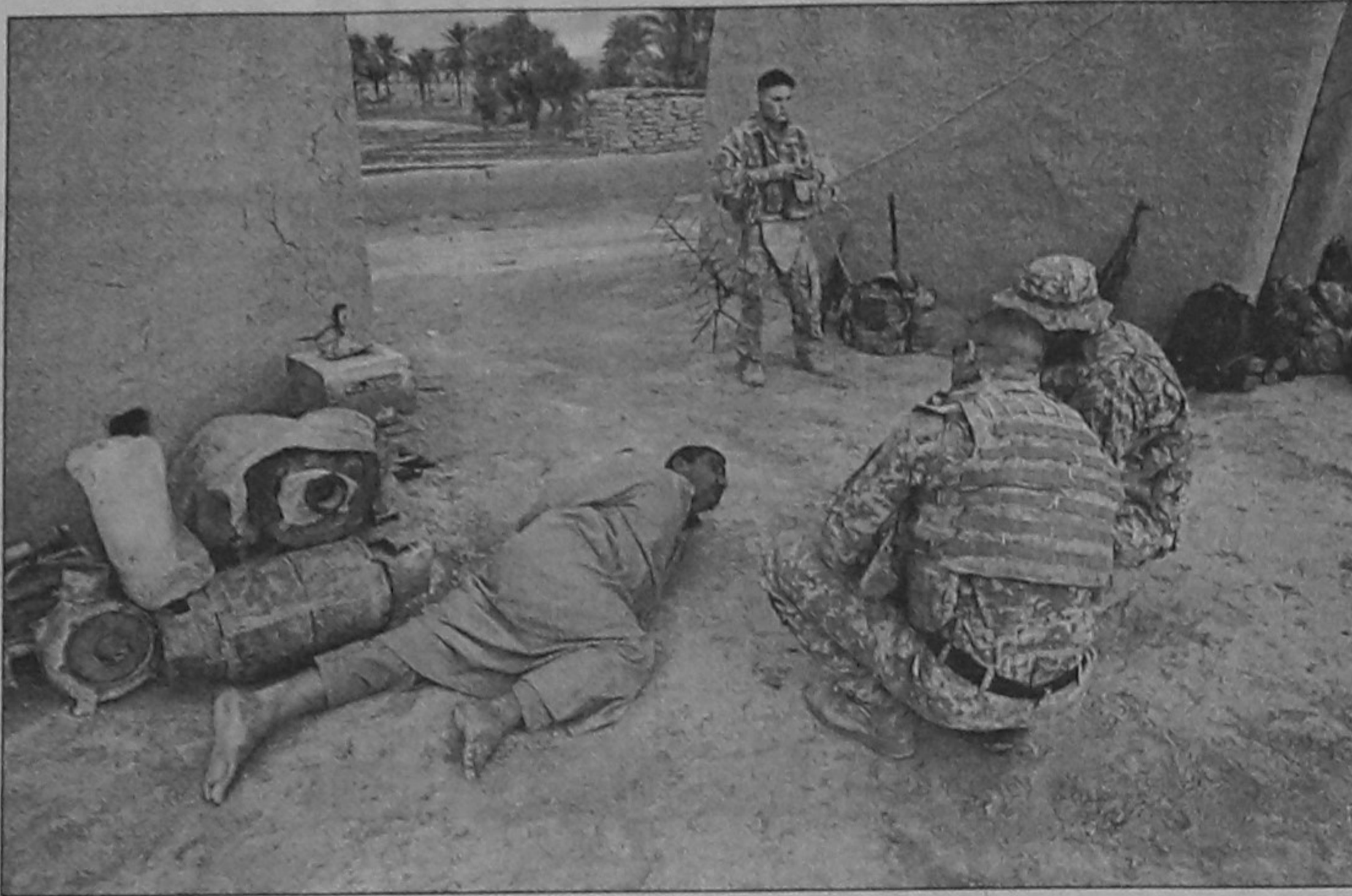
THE NATION/ ANN, Bangkok

Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej yesterday (March 23) weighed into moves to amend the Constitution, saying he preferred extensive changes to all "problematic provisions".

"In fact I want the whole Constitution amended. But there's some caution that the changes should affect only problematic clauses. So I think the 2007 Constitution should be compared to the 1997 charter and whatever is good should be maintained, and whatever is bad should be removed," the premier said.

Samak was wary of amending the charter as it would involve an expense of 2 billion baht (US\$63.93 million) to hold a public referendum. "That's outrageous," he said.

Last Friday, People Power Party secretary-general Sura-pong Suebwonglee, who is also deputy premier and the finance minister, proposed amending the constitution, arguing that it made dissolution of a political party "too easy".



A US soldier from Ghost Rider Company 3rd Squadron 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment questions a detained Iraqi man with alleged links to Sunni insurgent groups during the launch of Operation Grim Ghost in the deserts of the restive Diyala Province, northeast of Baghdad Sunday.

## The forgotten dead of Iraq war

AFP, Baghdad

While the number of US troops killed in Iraq since the 2003 invasion stands at 4,000, up to three times as many Iraqi soldiers have died -- and the number of civilians killed runs into tens and probably hundreds of thousands.

The casualties.org web site, based only on published reports, shows that around 8,000 members of the Iraqi security forces have died since the March 2003 invasion. Last year however the Iraqi government put the figure at 12,000.

There is no agreement when it comes to civilian casualties, particularly as many deaths are never reported in the media.

In January, a joint UN World Health Organisation and the Iraqi government study concluded that between 104,000 and 223,000 Iraqis had died violently since the invasion.

As of March 24, the independent Iraq Body Count website, based solely on incidents reported by the

media, spoke of close to 90,000 deaths, of whom over a quarter -- 24,000 -- died in 2007.

At the high end of the scale, British polling institute Opinion Research Business in a report published January 30 estimated the total number of civilian deaths at between 946,000 and 1.12 million.

The Lancet, a respected British medical review, quoted a statistical survey, which found that as of July 2006 some 655,000 more civilians had died than would have been the case if there had been no war.

The scars run deeply in Iraqi society.

Um Mohammed, a 49-year-old widow in Baghdad's western Mansur neighbourhood, whose husband was abducted and shot by gunmen 15 months ago, bitterly blamed the US military for the loss, which has profoundly affected her and her family.

Her two daughters, both in college, are still in deep mourning while her son, in secondary school, is so depressed he failed his exams last year. They have been forced to

move in with her husband's family to survive.

"Why does the world care so much about the 4,000 soldiers killed? No one cares about the Iraqis," said Um Mohammed, a Sunni Arab.

"All the killings in Iraq are because of the Americans. They are the cause of all the bloodshed. I ask Allah to kill all the American soldiers -- to count them all and not leave anyone of them," she said.

"The world regards the American soldiers as our saviours but they are murderers."

As a grim reminder that civilian casualties are relentlessly mounting, the chief of Baghdad's main morgue said Monday there has been a spike in the number of corpses received in the past fortnight amid a new wave of violence in and around the Iraqi capital.

The mortuary has received an average of 15 bodies per day of people killed in violent attacks in Baghdad in this period, up from an average of two bodies a day since the beginning of the year, said

morgue general director Munjid Rezali.

Ivana Vuco, human rights officer at United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, said last month that tracking civilian deaths in Iraq is a "huge problem".

"Some reports do not even come to us," she said.

Among civilians who have died are those who have been accidentally killed in raids and air strikes by US-led forces while targeting insurgents.

Although there is no accurate count, according to the United Nations 123 civilian deaths alone were reported due to air strikes in the six-month period between July 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007.

According to casualties.org, 308 soldiers from other countries who have formed part of the US-led coalition have been killed in Iraq since the invasion.

Among countries that still have forces in Iraq, the death tolls as of March 24 were: Britain: 175; Poland: 23; Ukraine: 18; Bulgaria: 13; Denmark: eight.

## About 130 confirmed dead in unrest Says Tibet govt-in-exile

AFP, Dharamshala

Around 130 people have been confirmed killed in a Chinese crackdown on protests and unrest in Tibet, the prime minister of the Tibetan government-in-exile told AFP yesterday.

"This figure is from our sources in Tibet. The verifiable number is about 130 in entire Tibet," Samdhong Rinpoche said in Dharamshala in northern India, the base of exiled Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama.

The new toll is a jump from the figure of 99 confirmed deaths provided by the government-in-exile last week.

"These are not necessarily new casualties. This could be information that we could not get before," Rinpoche said, adding that the numbers also included fatalities from Tibetan areas in provinces such as Gansu and Sichuan.

"We are afraid the number could go up when we get more information from remote areas," he said. "China has released different figures on the number of dead."

On Saturday, the Chinese state news agency Xinhua said Tibetan rioters killed 18 "innocent" civilians and one police officer during protests against Chinese rule in the Himalayan region's capital of Lhasa.

Protests, which began two weeks ago on the anniversary of a failed 1959 Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule, erupted into deadly violence in Lhasa on March 14.

Riots then spread into other parts of China with significant ethnic Tibetan populations, marking the biggest challenge to Chinese control of the Himalayan region in two decades.

Independent verification of the varying casualty figures has not been possible, with Chinese authorities keeping a tight lid across a huge swathe of riot-hit areas and denying foreign reporters access.

China has accused the "Dalai Lama clique" of orchestrating the violence ahead of the Olympic Games in August. But the Dalai Lama has called Beijing's charges against him "baseless".

## Greatest experiment ever in particle physics nears countdown

AFP, Geneva

Mighty things are going on at CERN, Europe's atom-smashing laboratory.

Below ground, in a vast circular tunnel below the French-Swiss border near Geneva, the final pieces of a gigantic machine are being set in place for an extraordinary investigation into the infinitely small.

If things go according to plan, the greatest experiment in the history of particle physics could unveil a sub-atomic component, the Higgs Boson, which is so tantalising that it has been called "the God Particle".

The "Higgs", named after a British physicist, Peter Higgs, who first proposed it in 1964, would fill a gaping hole in the benchmark theory for understanding the physical cosmos.

Other work on the so-called Large Hadron Collider (LHC) could explain dark matter and dark energy -- strange phenomena that, stunned astrophysicists

discovered a few years ago, account for 96 percent of the Universe.

It could shed clues on the mystery of how the Universe came to be.

And it may determine whether, as some physicists believe, space-time holds dimensions other than our own.

"We are standing on the shoulders of giants. But we want to know better and we want to know more," said a leading CERN investigator, Juergen Schukraft.

A gamble costing six billion Swiss francs (almost six billion dollars, 3.9 billion euros) that has harnessed the labours of more than 2,000 physicists from nearly three dozen countries, the LHC is the biggest, most powerful high-energy particle accelerator ever built.

"It's fantastic. It's like a baby, only it doesn't take nine months to be born, but 19 years," enthused Daniel Denegri, whose Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) detector is bidding to be first to snare the Higgs.

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## দোকান ও অফিস স্পেস বিক্রয় চলছে

ঢাকার প্রানকেন্দ্র ফার্মগেটে অত্যাধুনিক শপিং কাম কমার্শিয়াল কমপ্লেক্স

আবাসিক ও বানিজ্যিক পরিসরে অবস্থিত বি টি আই সেন্ট্রাল প্লাজায় রয়েছে

- ত্রি-তল বেইজমেন্ট পার্কিং সুবিধা
- উচ্চ প্রশস্ত গ্র্যান্ড এন্ট্রেন্স
- প্রশস্ত করিডোর
- আকর্ষণীয় ক্যাপসুল লিফট ছাড়াও ২টি লিফট
- সম্পূর্ণ শীতাতপ নিয়ন্ত্রিত
- স্ট্যান্ডবাই পাওয়ার
- নিজস্ব পাওয়ার সাব স্টেশন
- ব্যাংক এ টি এম সুবিধা সহ আরও অনেক কিছু

আজই আপনার দোকান/অফিস স্পেস বুকিং দিন

## THINK. DECIDE. ACT.

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### GEMCON GROUP

HR & Admin Department

#### Corporate Office

House 44, Road 27 (old), 16 (new) Dhanmondi, Dhaka 1209, Bangladesh.



Defining Standards in Innovation and Service

### Position: Manager/Assistant Manager/Executive - HR & A

Number of position and job location: 1 in Dhaka & 3 outside Dhaka

#### Key Responsibilities

- Screening, co-ordinating and conducting in the recruitment
- Managing staff appraisal process and procedures
- Handling grievance, counselling staff
- Analyzing training need, co-ordinating and organizing training
- Staff skill/competencies assessment
- Staff motivation and development
- Administrative and Logistics services of the company

#### Key Requirements

- Post graduate degree preferably in Business Administration or BBA with HR major
- 2 to 5 years' experience in the relevant field in a reputed organization
- Knowledge on Human Resource Management and Labour Laws of the country
- Ability to work under pressure and proficiency in communication
- Age 22 - 40 years

### Position: Accounts Manager

Number of position and job location: 1 in Dhaka & 3 outside Dhaka

#### Key Responsibilities

- Full set of accounts, reconciliation, invoicing and inter-company billing
- Timely completion of all financial statements and reports
- Improvement of accounting systems in line with group policy
- Make payments/adjustments, receipt vouchers, petty cash and revolving funds, oversee monthly account closing & provisioning
- Prepare Budget and follow-up accordingly

#### Key Requirements

- Masters in Accounting/Finance/CA (Intermediate) with good academic records
- Minimum 3 years' work experience in a managerial position in finance and accounts
- Working experience in Accounting Software will be preferred
- Age within 40 years

### Position: Store Manager

Number of position and job location: 1 outside Dhaka

#### Key Responsibilities

- Receiving & issuing all store materials
- Regular update of Stock ledger/Store Register and bin cards
- Finding efficient sources of store materials, compare the market price, etc.
- Recording of store indent & requisition
- Voucher posting
- Ensuring M.R.R. issue & posting
- Liaison with factory regarding material receiving, quality report

#### Key Requirements

- Masters/Graduate in any discipline with good academic records from a recognized university
- Must have experience in introducing, designing and implementing a Store System
- Minimum 5 years' work experience in a similar position in the relevant field
- Age below 40 years

### Position: Operations Manager

Number of position and job location: 1 outside Dhaka

#### Key Responsibilities

- Looking after the processing and packing of sea food products according to USFDA and EU regulations
- Looking after the administration of the processing plant
- Conducting the inspection of government organization related to quality and export, conducting visit of buyers at processing plant
- Maintaining liaison with different sectors/organizations/regulatory bodies for smooth export of the processed shrimp
- Liaison with shrimp supplying agent
- Harmonization between different functions of processing plant
- Minimization of overhead expenditure
- Ensure Labor Law compliance

### Key Requirements

- Bachelor in Engineering(Mechanical)/Masters in Science from a reputed university. Can be relaxed in case of persons having relevant practical experience in process/manufacturing industries
- At least 5 years' experience in overall plant management of FMCG products/Textile/Jute mills/Food products
- Good people management skills
- Hands on experience, target oriented and proven track record
- Should have exposure to commercial activities as well as full understanding of all the financial aspects of the operation

### Position: Inventory Manager

Number of position and job location : 1 in Dhaka

#### Key Responsibilities

- To manage the inventory team with minimum supervision
- Ensure optimization of re-order level and minimum inventory level
- Good contact with local & international vendors
- Develop vendors' list for ensuring multiple sources
- Ensure smart warehousing system

#### Key Requirements

- Post Graduate in Commerce from any recognized university and relevant professional degree would be considered as added value
- Minimum 5 years' relevant experience but at least three years as an Assistant Manager
- Experience in dealing with complex & multiple businesses by introducing, designing, and implementing inventory procedures
- Working experience in ERP environment/software
- Highly proficient in English

### Position: Procurement Manager

Number of position and job location : 1 outside Dhaka

#### Key Responsibilities

- To manage the procurement team with minimum supervision
- Ensure best procurement in time with minimum price
- Good contact with local & international vendors
- Develop vendors' list for ensuring multiple sources
- Ensure timely delivery by avoiding damage

#### Key Requirements

- Post Graduate in Commerce from any recognized university and relevant professional degree would be considered as added value
- Minimum 5 years' relevant experience but at least three years as an Assistant Manager
- Experience in dealing with complex & multiple businesses by introducing, designing, and implementing procurement procedures
- Highly proficient in English

### Position: Microbiologist

Number of position and job location : 1 outside Dhaka

#### Key Responsibility

- Quality control

#### Key Requirements

- Must have Masters Degree in Microbiology
- Working experience in Fisheries Industries

### Position: Electrical Engineer

Number of position and job location : 1 outside Dhaka

#### Key Responsibility

- Factory maintenance

#### Key Requirements

- Diploma in Engineering (Electrical)

Excellent interpersonal communication skill and proficiency in computer applications are mandatory for all the positions.