



A Pakistani policeman frisks a man at a checkpoint in Islamabad yesterday. Pakistani police have foiled a major terror plot, seizing three explosives-packed vehicles and arresting six people including three would-be suicide bombers near Islamabad.

Pakistan foils car bomb terror plot near capital

Pakistani police have foiled a major terror plot, seizing three explosives-packed vehicles and arresting six people including three would-be suicide bombers near Islamabad, officials said Friday. The discovery of the massive bombs in the army headquarters city of Rawalpindi, which adjoins the capital, comes just days after a deadly suicide car bomb attack outside the Danish embassy in Islamabad. Security forces placed the two cities on red alert following the discovery of the explosives, which

Pak Army to leave Mehsud areas after deal inked

Frontier Corps soldiers by Baitullah in South Waziristan. Taliban commander in South Waziristan's Sararogha town Taj Muhammad told Daily Times on May 24 that militants led by Baitullah were still holding dozens of soldiers captured during operations or ambushes. Cross-border attacks: The draft agreement does not include the condition of a commitment by the Mehsud tribes that they would not allow militants to continue cross-border movement for attacks on the United States and Nato forces inside Afghanistan. The military will "withdraw completely" from the Mehsud areas of South Waziristan after Taliban commander Baitullah Mehsud frees the remaining captured army and paramilitary soldiers, and the government and Mehsud tribes sign a peace deal, according to a draft truce made available to Daily Times on Thursday. "If Clause 10 (A) of the peace deal is honoured, the army will vacate the Mehsud areas," reads Clause 11 of the draft peace agreement. Clause 10 (A) refers to the release of "kidnapped army and

No peace talks with 'terrorists': Pak FM

the talks after defeating allies of US-backed President Pervez Musharraf in elections in February. It says his military-based strategy was merely fuelling militancy. Qureshi said Islamabad believed it needed to adopt a more comprehensive approach to fighting extremism that included political engagement, socio-economic development and "when required" military measures. Pakistan has already signed a peace deal with pro-Taliban militants in the Swat Valley, about 99 kilometres (55 miles) from Afghanistan. That has seen soldiers leave the area and the rebels implementing Islamic Sharia law. It is in talks with al-Qaeda-linked leader Baitullah Mehsud, who has vowed to continue "jihad" (holy war) in Afghanistan while pursuing peace negotiations. Karzai told the Pakistani minister that Islamabad's peace moves with Taliban extremists could have "destructive" consequences for both nations, and emphasised the need for a "strong fight" against such groups, his office said. Afghan Foreign Minister Rangan Dardar Spanta told reporters he had raised similar concerns. "I informed Mr. Qureshi of the very serious concerns of Afghan people and government regarding the peace initiatives between Pakistani government authorities and Pakistani Taliban," he said after talks with his counterpart. "This is a serious concern and will have dangerous consequences for Afghanistan," Spanta told a joint press conference. The two top US allies on the "war on terror" had bickered for years about the extremist violence growing in both countries, with each accusing the other of not doing enough to fight it.

Report accuses Bush of misrepresenting Iraq intelligence

A new Senate report gives a fresh shot of adrenaline to the election-year debate over the Iraq war. President Bush and his top officials deliberately misrepresented secret intelligence to make the case to invade Iraq, according to the Senate Intelligence Committee. The panel put a new spin on old charges, comparing claims made in five speeches by top Bush administration officials with intelligence reports. The committee says officials wrongly linked Saddam Hussein to the Sept. 11 attacks and al-Qaeda; claimed Iraq would give terrorist groups chemical, biological or nuclear weapons, and said Iraq was developing drone aircraft to spread chemical or biological agents over the United States. None was borne out by intelligence. The presumptive Democratic nominee for president, Sen Barack Obama, has staked his campaign on his consistent opposition to the Iraq war. The presumptive Republican nominee, Sen John McCain, has trumpeted his unflinching support for the war, if not how it was waged.

'US pressuring UN to probe Iran's nukes'

Iran accused the United States on Thursday of pressuring the UN's nuclear agency to base its latest investigation of Tehran's nuclear activities on fake evidence suggesting that Iran had a secret weapons programme. It also threatened to sue countries that pushed to have UN Security Council involvement in its nuclear programme, a clear allusion to the United States and its key allies. The US, France, Australia, Canada and Japan were using the nuclear issue to find an excuse for "their hidden agenda," including regime change and depriving Iran of science and technology, said Ali Ashgar Soltanieh, Iran's chief delegate to the International Atomic Energy Agency. Speaking at the closing session of the 35-nation IAEA board, he suggested the failed attempt to push Iran into concessions on its nuclear programme and give up uranium enrichment was only one example of a series of bad foreign policy decisions by Washington.



Activists of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) shout anti-government slogans as they protest against a government hike in fuel prices during a 12-hour strike in Kolkata yesterday.

Sylhet City Corporation Invitation of Tender (Re-Tender) No. 17/2007-08. Includes a list of 16 items for tender and a table with 6 columns: SI No., Name of procurement, Tender security amount of Tk., Price of tender document, Completion time of works/month, and Source of fund.

Essential Drugs Company Limited International Tender Notice. EDCL invites International Press Tender for supply of Pharmaceutical Raw, Packing Materials and Reagent & Chemicals, Media & Microorganism & Indicators & Glass Ware on C&F(C) Chittagong by Sea/Dhaka by Air/Benapole by Road basis. Includes a table with 6 columns: S/L No., Tender No. date, Name of the item, Cost of tender schedule, and Last date of closing & opening.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Invitation for Re-Tender. Includes a table with 19 rows of tender details and a section for special instructions.