# THE WORLD

#### UPA rallies behind Speaker Somnath

PTI, New Delhi

The UPA today rallied behind Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee, a day after the veteran Marxist was expelled from the CPI-M, with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh meeting him, a move aimed at assuring him of the coalition's backing.

Singh, who drove to Chatterjee's residence here this morning, did not speak to the waiting reporters after the meeting that lasted about 10 minutes.

He is understood to have appreciated the manner in which the Speaker conducted the House.

But a senior Minister, Ram Vilas Paswan told reporters after meeting Chatterjee that the Speaker has the backing of the entire house.

"Chatterjee's expulsion by his party doesn't change change his position " as Speaker, Paswan said adding "he will continue to receive our support.

#### Attention now turns to fugitive Mladic

AFP, Belgrade

With war crimes suspect Radovan Karadzic finally in custody, Serbia came under increased pressure yesterday to capture his fugitive wartime military chief Ratko Mladic, also wanted for genocide.

"The Serbs are making a step forward in closing an ugly chapter in their past, and I just hope that Mladic is next," US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said in Singapore during an Asian tour.

Karadzic was arrested on a suburban bus in the Serbian capital on Monday, and looks set to be transferred to the UN war crimes tribunal in the next few days despite mounting a legal challenge against the move from his Belgrade prison cell.

The wartime Bosnian Serb leader intends to defend himself in the trial, raising concerns of a chaotic, marathon case like that of his former ally, Slobodan Milosevic, who died in detention at The Hague-based tribunal in 2006.



PHOTO: INTERNE The fossilised bones of a juvenile

#### tarbosaurus. Complete dinosaur fossil found

AP, Tokyo

Japanese and Mongolian scientists have successfully recovered the complete skeleton of a 70million-year-old young dinosaur, a nature museum announced Thursday.

The scientists uncovered a Tarbosaurus related to the giant carnivorous Tyrannosaurus from a chunk of sandstone they dug up in August, 2006 in the Gobi Desert in Mongolia, said Takuji Yokoyama, a spokesman for the Hayashibara Museum of Natural Sciences, a co-organiser of the joint research project.

"We were so lucky to have found remains that turned out to be a complete set of all the important parts," he said.

After two years of careful preparatory work, scientists found that the fossilised skeleton only lacked neck bones and the tip of the tail.

## Pakistan rules out foreign 'invasion' against militants

Gilani faces tough terror questions in US

AFP, London/Islamabad

Pakistan will not allow foreign troops into its tribal areas to root out extremists threatening coalition forces in neighbouring Afghanistan, its foreign minister said here yesterday.

"Invading the FATA (Federally Administered Tribal Areas) is not an said in a question and answer session after a speech to the International Institute for Strategic Studies thinktankin central London.

of all, we are a sovereign country and... we feel that we have capable troops in Pakistan that can look after peace and security within our weekend

Oureshi's comments came as Pakistan's Prime Minister Yousuf the United States to discuss stepping up efforts against Islamist extremists launching attacks on Nato forces in Afghanistan.

The visit comes amid mounting fears in Pakistan that the United option," Shah Mahmood Qureshi States is prepared to launch military "hot pursuit" raids into the troubled Pakistani tribal belt as attacks soar in Afghanistan.

Gilani will face searching ques-"It will not solve any issue. First tions about his commitment to fighting Taliban and al-Qaeda militants along the Afghan border when he flies to Washington this

"The US will have one simple question for Gilani: 'Do you have the will to manage the affairs in the tribal Raza Gilani prepared to leave for areas?'," Hasan Askari, a political analyst at Johns Hopkins University inWashington DC, told AFP.

> US President George W. Bush said earlier this month that he was "troubled" by the cross-border movement of extremists from Pakistan to Afghanistan and would discuss the threat with Gilani when he visits.

> reported a 40 percent rise in militant attacks on parts of eastern Afghanistan since Pakistan's new government launched peace talks with Taliban rebels in the tribal belt.

Deaths of western troops in Afghanistan have exceeded those in Iraq for the last two months, while the bombing of the Indian embassy in Kabul and a militant raid that killed nine US troops this month have also set alarm bells

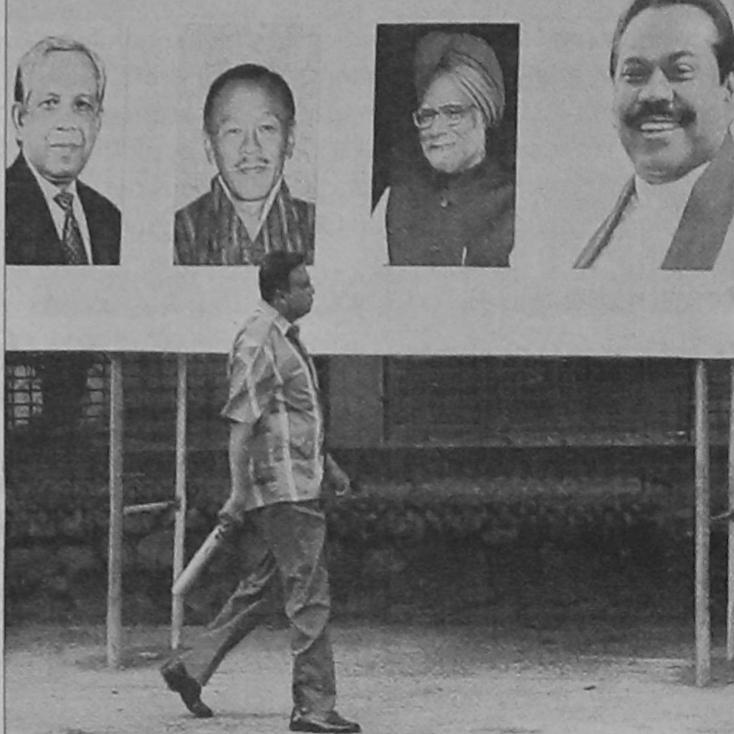
With Gilani's government also facing economic problems at home just five months after defeating allies of US-backed President Pervez Musharraf in elections, he is US military commanders have set to come under renewed pressure from Bush on Monday.

Pakistani foreign ministry spokesman Muhammad Sadiq said Gilani's trip to Washington would cover the "war on terror", bilateral relations and the economy.



Pakistani lawyers and political activists wave placards as they march in Lahore yesterday demanding reinstatement of sacked judges. The two main ruling coalition parties agreed to reinstate the judges when they originally formed the coalition in March this year, but have failed to agree on how to do it.

JULY TO 04th AUGUS



A Sri Lankan pedestrian walks past a billboard featuring images of South Asian Leaders in Colombo yesterday. South Asian leaders will meet in the Sri Lankan capital for the two-day annual Saarc (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) summit starting August 2. Sri Lanka's separatist Tamil Tiger rebels have announced a unilateral ceasefire to coincide with Saarc meetings, an offer brushed off by the government.

### Mayawati returns with Top Pak leaders on larger profile

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Lucknow

The loss in the parliament trust vote may have dashed Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mayawati's immediate dream of power in New Delhi, but she is returning to Lucknow with a larger national profile, including new allies who are more than ready to accept her as prime ministerial candidate.

The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) she leads had been boasting for over a year that she is capable of ruling the world's largest democracy. Now other parties, including many that are older to the BSP, are

echoing her supporters. In the run up to the United Progressive Alliance's (UPA) trust vote on Tuesday, opposition parties fell over each other to woo her, total 80 seats in the state.

thanks to her growing stature as a winner. The Communists didn't think twice about calling her a future prime minister while the regional United National Progressive Alliance (UNPA) dutifully followed suit.

"In Uttar Pradesh her political graph remains on the same high as it was when she romped home in assembly elections with a clear majority (in May 2007)," said Ramesh Dixit, who teaches political science at the Lucknow University.

For Mayawati, the road to Delhi will have to pass through Lucknow. And it may not be such a bumpy ride.

There is broad agreement that Mayawati would improve her Lok Sabha tally in Uttar Pradesh from the present 17 to over 40 seats of the

### India in diplomatic overdrive to seal US nuclear pact

AFP, New Delhi

India said yesterday it was sending out envoys to lobby for the final international clearances needed to finalise a controversial nuclear energy deal with the United States.

The diplomatic offensive comes after the ruling coalition survived a hard-fought confidence vote in parliament sparked by left-wing and communist opposition to the

Government officials told AFP that senior cabinet ministers and foreign ministry officials had left New Delhi to solicit the support of members of the International

Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the 45-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG). Science Minister Kapil Sibal is

travelling to IAEA headquarters in Vienna while foreign secretary Shiv Shankar Menon is in Germany to persuade Berlin, a member of the influential NSG that regulates nuclear commerce, to back the pact.

Another senior government envoy, Shyam Saran, was in Ireland, another NSG member, while National Security Adviser M.K. Narayanan will head abroad this weekend, with his schedule not yet fixed, officials said.

### Asia forges accord on joint disaster taskforce

AFP, Singapore

Asia's top security forum agreed yesterday on military exercises aimed at forging a regional taskforce to deal with calamities like those that struck Myanmar and China this year.

resolved two years ago to develop guidelines for joint disaster relief, but the confused response to the Myanmar cyclone showed up the fact that little has been done since

George Yeo said Thursday's meeting

of the 27-nation security dialogue, which takes in the 10-member Southeast Asian bloc as well as the US, China and Russia, had gone "quite deep" into the issue.

He said that as well as endorsing a joint US-Philippines disaster exercise, the ministers had estab-The Asean Regional Forum lished procedures on deploying military resources and "even having designated forces in standby readiness" "It makes a lot of sense to con-

duct such exercises, you don't want to be working together for the first Singapore Foreign Minister time when there are natural disasters," Yeo told a press conference.

### Pakistan warns of new N-arms race with India

AP, PTI, Vienna

Pakistan has warned a deal leading to increased Indian access to nuclear fuel could accelerate the atomic arms race between the rivals, according to a letter andits testing of atomic weapons. obtained on Wednesday by The Associated Press.

must strike separate agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency as well as the Nuclear Suppliers Group of countries that export nuclear material. Then Congress will need to approve the accord.

The agreements would end more than three decades of nuclear isola-

tion for India, opening its civilian is key in India's efforts to gain reactors to international inspec- access to legal imports of nuclear tions in exchange for the nuclear fuel and technology it has been denied because of its refusal to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty

India imports about 75 percent of its oil, and the prime minister To finalize the US deal, India has argued the country needs the nuclear deal to power its financial growth and lift hundreds of millions out of poverty.

The 35-nation IAEA board is expected to approve on August 1 a safeguards agreement setting up rules for inspecting some of India's civilian nuclear facilities.

fuel and technology from the 45nation Nuclear Suppliers Group. Pakistan's letter dated July 18

addressed more than 60 nations including members of the IAEA board and Nuclear Suppliers Group. It warned the safeguards agreement would hurt nonproliferation efforts and "threatens to increase the chances of a nuclear arms race in the subcontinent."

Predominantly Hindu India and Muslim Pakistan have fought three wars since they were created in the bloody partition of the Indian subcontinent at independence Approval of the safeguards deal from Britain in 1947.

#### All options against Iran must be prepared: Israel Russia opposes deadline for Iran

AFP, Jerusalem/ Moscow

The Israeli army chief of staff has staff, who is on his first visit to said in Washington that all options must be prepared to counter Iran's year. controversial nuclear programme, in remarks relayed on Thursday.

understanding that Iran must not due to hold talks on Thursday with Thursday. be allowed to acquire a nuclear weapon and that there is no doubt that diplomacy must be given priority," Major General Gabi suspect that Iran's nuclear drive is Ashkenazi said on Israeli public aimed at developing an atomic

"But we all realise, both the by Tehran, which says its

must be prepared," said the chief of Washington since taking office last

the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Michael Mullen. Israel and the United States

bomb, a claim vehemently denied

Americans and us, that all options programme is designed solely for civilian use.

Meanwhile, Moscow opposes setting a deadline for Iran to respond to an offer made by six Ashkenazi has held talks with mediator countries in strained military top brass as well as Vice nuclear talks, Russia's foreign "We are all united over the President Dick Cheney, and was minister was quoted as saying

"There should be no artificial limits, either in the sense of some kind of deadline, like 'tomorrow or never', or in the endless dragging out of the process," Lavrov told Russian journalists in Singapore, Interfax news agency reported.

# Taliban hit-list

PTI, Islamabad

Pakistan's security and intelligence agencies have been put on high alert following reports that local Taliban chief Baitullah Mehsud has prepared a hit list of 300 highprofile figures, including top politicalleaders.

Among those that could be targeted are the leadership of the ruling Pakistan People's Party, Awami National Party, Muttahida Qaumi Movement and anti-Taliban Shia and Sunni clerics, said source close to an intelligence agency.

Personnel from intelligence and law enforcement agencies, officials from the federal interior and provincial ministries and journalists could also be targeted by the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan of Mehsud, who was blamed for the December 27 assassination of "American agents."

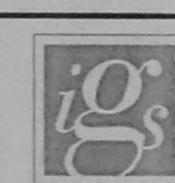
former premier Benazir Bhutto. The families of the political leadership and law enforcement personnel are also believed to be at risk, the sources told the Daily Times newspaper. "Of course this type of information is received from time to time," said CID chief Saud Mirza, adding that Pakistan is still under threat.

"We are in coordination with all the intelligence agencies," he said. The MQM's leadership was alerted by law enforcement agencies when members of the Jundullah militant groups were arrested on charges of attacking the former Corps Commander of Karachi, Lt General Ahsan Hayat.

During interrogations, the arrested men confessed that they targeted the MQM's leadership as its members were perceived as



#### Institute of Governance Studies **BRAC** University



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Please send your Curriculum Vitae with cover letter and names of three referees. The position for which you are applying should be clearly stated. Please send applications to:

> Institute of Governance Studies **BRAC University** 40/6 North Avenue, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212 Email: igs-info@bracuniversity.ac.bd

# Nine killed in fresh

AFP, Srinagar

At least nine people including women and young children were killed in fresh outbreaks of violence in Indian Kashmir yesterday, offi-

cials said. A grenade attack by suspected Islamic militants in the region's main city, Srinagar, left a woman and her four children dead and 30 others wounded, police said. The victims were mainly migrant work-

ers and their families. executed a former rebel and three of his family members -- including his wife, daughter and four-yearold nephew -- in an apparent

revenge killing, officials said. Ghulam Hussain, was a former member of the disputed region's main militant group, the pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahedin. He others.

had surrendered in 2004, earning himself a place on a militant hit-

He was killed in Doda district, about 170 kilometres (105 miles) south of Srinagar, hours after a separate grenade attack also left two policemen and a civilian

The insurgency against Indian rule in Kashmir, which began in 1989, has left more than 43,000 people dead.

Levels of violence have steadily In a separate attack, militants declined since India and Pakistan, who each hold the region in part but claim it in full, launched a peace process in 2004.

But the region has again witnessed a sharp upsurge in violence Police said the murdered man, in recent weeks, including a roadside bomb attack on an Indian army bus on Saturday that killed nine soldiers and wounded 16



Indian police officers stand at the site of a grenade attack in Srinagar yesterday. At least nine people, including women and children, were killed in fresh outbreaks of violence in Indian Kashmir, officials said.