

## 10 killed in Afghan strikes

AFP, Herat

Air strikes hit a building occupied by a Taliban-era official in southwestern Afghanistan early Friday, killing him, seven other insurgents, a woman and a child, the Afghan army said.

International and Afghan troops had moved into the Bakwa district in the southwestern province of Farah overnight and called in the strikes, Afghan National Army commander for the area Farooq Naeemi said.

The target was Mullah Fazil, who was the deputy governor of the province during the 1996 to 2001 rule of the Taliban, said Naeemi and the current deputy provincial governor, Mohammad Younis Rasouli.

"In the air strike eight Taliban were killed, among them three commanders including Mullah Fazil," Naeemi told AFP.

Suu Kyi's party expresses concern for her health

AP, Yangon

The political party of detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi urged Myanmar's military government Friday to ensure her well-being as she continued to refuse food deliveries to protest her detention.

The National League for Democracy "expressed concern" that Suu Kyi has not accepted food delivered to her home for almost three weeks, the party said in a statement.

It did not say whether she was on a hunger strike, a question that has remained unanswered since the first mention of her refusal to accept food over a week ago.

## Thousands still trapped by Indian floods

AFP, Patna

Rescue workers in flood-hit northern India have brought over 800,000 people to safety, but tens of thousands more are still believed to be trapped, officials said Friday.

Large swathes of the already impoverished state of Bihar were flooded after defences upstream in Nepal broke, shifting the flow of the Kosi river away from its normal course and onto farmland.

Indian armed forces, other official bodies and aid groups have since used boats to hunt for survivors, some of whom have spent up to two weeks trapped on roofs or isolated high ground without food or clean water.

"A major part of evacuation is

over with more than 800,000 people evacuated and shifted to safe places. About 280,000 of them are taking shelter at relief camps," Bihar Disaster Management Minister Nitish Mishra told reporters.

"It was an unprecedented operation, not only in India but in the world," Mishra said, but cautioned that some 50,000 to 100,000 people were still believed to be trapped in flooded areas.

Rescue operations were continuing, although there have been reports of many people refusing to leave their villages -- even though they're waist-deep in water.

Around 100 people are confirmed to have died in the floods, but the real number is certain to be far higher as many were simply

washed away by the deep water and strong currents that swept through rural areas.

State officials said 1,100 square kilometres (420 square miles) of land had been badly hit and at least 300,000 homes destroyed.

Water levels have receded in recent days, allowing aid workers to access more areas and bring more people out, said R K Singh, principal secretary in Bihar's disaster management department.

But officials also cautioned that the drop in water levels was likely to be temporary, with the Kosi river likely to hit its peak flow on several weeks towards the end of the monsoon season, at the end of September or beginning of October.

In Nepal, where 50,000 people

have also been left homeless, officials say they cannot begin work on repairing the river defences until the monsoon season ends.

Separately, the northeastern Indian state of Assam is also being hit by monsoon flooding of the Brahmaputra river and its tributaries.

"A total of 19 of the state's 27 districts are hit. The floods have displaced about 1.5 million people, with the overall situation continuing to be critical," Assam relief and rehabilitation minister, Bhupinder Barman, told AFP.

Downstream in Bangladesh, 20 of the country's 64 districts have been hit with officials estimating that a quarter of the low-lying delta country's landmass was under water.



PHOTO: AFP  
A one-horned rhinoceros and a calf stand in floodwaters at the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, some 55km east of Guwahati yesterday. Floodwaters have submerged some 90 percent of the sanctuary in the eastern Indian state of Assam, forcing rhinos and other wild animals to shelter in woodland of the park which is located at a higher altitude.

## India vows to avoid arms race as NSG talks resume

AP, Vienna

India pledged yesterday not to engage in a new arms race as talks continued in Vienna over whether to let the United States sell India nuclear material and technology for civilian use.

It remained unclear whether the US would win its push to get a waiver on a nuclear trade ban.

More than a dozen nations have balked at the deal, pointing out that India has conducted atomic test blasts and has refused to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

In New Delhi, External Affairs

Minister Pranab Mukherjee said his country remains committed to a voluntary moratorium on nuclear testing. He said India would not touch off a new arms race or share sensitive nuclear technology with others.

"We do not subscribe to any arms race, including a nuclear arms race," Mukherjee said Friday. "We have always tempered the exercise of our strategic autonomy with a sense of global responsibility. We affirm our policy of no-first-use of nuclear weapons."

Acting US Undersecretary of State John Rood, who specializes in

arms control issues, told reporters as the talks broke for lunch that Washington remained "confident and optimistic" that it would hammer out a compromise.

Rood hailed Mukherjee's statement as "very significant" and expressed hope that it would lay to rest any lingering concerns about India's nuclear ambitions and intentions.

The talks were convened by the 45-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group, which governs the legal trade in nuclear components and technology. Thursday's session was inconclusive.

## High-profile Indian gets 5-year jail term in hit-and-run case

AP, New Delhi

An Indian court yesterday jailed the well-connected son of a rich arms dealer for five years for killing six people in a hit-and-run car accident nearly a decade ago, lawyers said.

The trial has been in the media spotlight because of Sanjeev Nanda's influential background, allegations of witness intimidation and a TV clip showing the defence and prosecution lawyers striking a deal to bail the accused out.

His homicide conviction earlier this week was also taken as a sign that India's rich and powerful can no longer act with the impunity of the past, even if the judicial system remains deeply flawed.

## Pak govt not to pursue cases against Sharif Says Gilani

THE DAILY TIMES, Islamabad

The government is not pursuing any case against the Sharif brothers, Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani told the National Assembly (NA) on Thursday.

Giving a policy statement regarding the re-opening of corruption cases by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) against Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) chief Nawaz Sharif and PML-N President Shahbaz

Sharif, the premier said his government did not believe in the politics of victimisation.

Gilani said he was aware of reports of the re-opening of NAB cases against the Sharif brothers. "There are no proceedings against any political leader by NAB," he added. He said a cabinet committee had been formed to repeal the NAB Ordinance and draft a new law to ensure transparency and across-the-board accountability.

However, he said the NAB Ordinance could not be repealed

currently because Article 6 of the Constitution protects it.

Gilani said NAB had been placed under the control of the Law Ministry, adding that the government would not set up any special court to hear cases against politicians and that ordinary courts will take up all such cases.

PML-N leader Ahsan Iqbal also welcomed the prime minister's policy statement, but said the PML-N had reservations over the transfer of NAB cases to ordinary courts.

## Rights group slams India, Maoist rebels over child soldiers

AFP, New Delhi

Human Rights Watch yesterday demanded the Indian government and Maoist rebels stop using child fighters in their escalating battle in the country's eastern jungles.

The US-based group called on the Indian government "to develop a scheme to identify, demobilise and rehabilitate" children caught up in the insurgency, centred in Chhattisgarh state.

"A particular horror of the Chhattisgarh conflict is that children are participating in the violence," said Jo Becker, children's rights advocate for Human Rights Watch.

"It's shameful that both India's government and the Maoists are exploiting children in such a dan-

gerous fashion."

It said the Maoists, known in India as Naxalites, trained children "in the use of rifles, landmines and improvised explosive devices" and pushed them into "armed exchanges with government security forces."

The group said a state-backed anti-Maoist militia, the Salwa Judum, as well as state police also recruited under-18s.

"Many eyewitnesses of joint raids by government security forces and Salwa Judum members described seeing dozens of children dressed in police uniforms armed with rifles," the group said.

The Maoist insurgency in India grew out of a peasant uprising in 1967 and has now hit half of India's 29 states.



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistani activists shout anti-US slogans as they burn a US flag during a protest in Lahore yesterday. Pakistan has condemned a cross-border raid by Afghanistan-based international troops on a tribal village as "shameful" and "unjustified", saying that only civilians had been targeted.

## বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন

স্থান: সেতু ভবন (৫ম ও ৬ষ্ঠ তলা), নিউ এয়ারপোর্ট রোড, বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১২

## টেক্নো বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১	অক্তিউর এন্টিটি	বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন।
২	অর্থনৈতিক উৎস	বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন।
৩	আহবানকৃত দরপত্রের স্মারক ও তারিখ	বিটিআরসি/প্রশাস্তি অফিস যত্নপ্রতি ত্রুট্য/২০০৮-১৭৯৮, ঢাকা-১০.০৯.০৮।
৪	দরপত্রের নাম/কার্ডের বিবরণ	১. মাল্টিমিডিয়া প্রজেক্ট। ২. বিভিন্ন কনফারেন্সের স্টেইন। ৩. Conferencing System 8. Fire Wall, VPN Concentrator ৫. সফটওয়্যার সরবরাহ।
৫	ত্রুট্য প্রতিক্রিয়া	উত্তুক দরপত্র অবস্থান প্রক্রিয়।
৬	দরপত্রের মেয়াদ	দরপত্র রেখালার তারিখ হতে ৬০ (ষাট) দিন।
৭	দরদাতাদের যোগ্যতা	প্রকৃত বিক্রয়কারী/ব্যবসায়ী/প্রতিষ্ঠান/সরবরাহকারী।
৮	দরপত্র তফসিলের মূল্য	টাং ১,০০০/- (এক হাজার) মাত্র অফেরত্যাগ।
৯	দরপত্র সিউরিটি/ব্যানার টাকা	সিউরিটি ট্রেইনিং সহযোগী।
১০	দরপত্র তফসিল বিক্রয়কারী প্রতিক্রিয়ানের নাম ও ঠিকানা	বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন, সেতু ভবন, নিউ এয়ারপোর্ট রোড, বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১২।
১১	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারীর দন্তের বিবরণ	বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন, নাম ও ঠিকানা।
১২	দরপত্র রেখালার দন্তের নাম ও ঠিকানা	বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন, সেতু ভবন, নিউ এয়ারপোর্ট রোড, বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১২।
১৩	দরপত্র তফসিল বিক্রয়কারীর পর্যাপ্ত সময় পর্যন্ত।	০৪.০৯.০৮ হতে ২৪.০৯.০৮ অফিস চলাকীর সময় পর্যন্ত।
১৪	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	২৫.০৯.০৮ বেলা ১২.০০ মিটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৫	দরপত্র রেখালার তারিখ ও সময়	২৫.০৯.০৮ বেলা ১২.৩০ মিটিকা।
১৬	আহবানকারীর পর্যাপ্ত সময় ও ঠিকানা ও টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন, সেতু ভবন, নিউ এয়ারপোর্ট রোড, বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১২, ফোনঃ ৮৮০-৯৮০৮০৮০।	পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও স্থায়ী), বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন, সেতু ভবন, নিউ এয়ারপোর্ট রোড, বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১২, ফোনঃ ৮৮০-৯৮০৮০৮০।
বিদ্রোহ	(১) অক্তিউর এন্টিটি দরপত্র প্রত্যবলীর যে কেন শক্ত পরিবর্তন/পরিবর্ধন/সংশোধন করার পথে এবং কেন কারণ প্রদর্শন করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করা। (২) দরদাতা প্রতিক্রিয়ানের নিজের লেটারহেডে প্যানে ফরওয়ার্ড পত্রের মাধ্যমে সীমান্তবৰ্তন দরপত্র আবেদনকারীর ব্যবহার করতে হবে।	প্রেসিডেন্ট আহবানকারীর পর্যাপ্ত সময় ও ঠিকানা ও টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন, সেতু ভবন, নিউ এয়ারপোর্ট রোড, বনানী, ঢাকা-১২১২, ফোনঃ ৮৮০-৯৮০৮০৮০।

মোহাম্মদ শোয়েব  
অস্ট ম্যানেজার (কমার্চিয়েল) প্রেসিডেন্ট  
বাংলাদেশ টেলিযোগায়োগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ কমিশন

জিভি-৪০৫৫

স্পেসেড আহবান