

BJP to look for winning polls strategy at leadership meet

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Bangalore

The Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) national executive meets in Bangalore on Friday to discuss a winning strategy for the next Lok Sabha polls as it looks for issues that will find resonance with voters in the face of a triumphal Congress that is seeking to highlight its policy successes over the India-US nuclear deal.

Pakistan has 'responsibility' to battle extremists: Bush

Pak troops kill 7 militants in tribal area

AFF, Washington/Khar

US President George W Bush describe Pakistan yesterday as a major war on terrorism battleground, like Afghanistan or Iraq, and urged Islamabad to shoulder its "responsibility" to fight extremists.

advance text. His message came amid media reports of multiple strikes inside Pakistan recently by US or international troops based in Afghanistan, which accuses its neighbour of abetting or at least turning a blind eye to cross-border violence.

January, said the United States and Nato would help Pakistan battle extremists, and expressed sorrow for any loss of innocent life, amid complaints in Pakistan and Afghanistan of civilian deaths.

Meanwhile, Pakistani troops backed by tanks yesterday killed at least seven Taliban militants in a restive tribal area bordering Afghanistan, officials said.

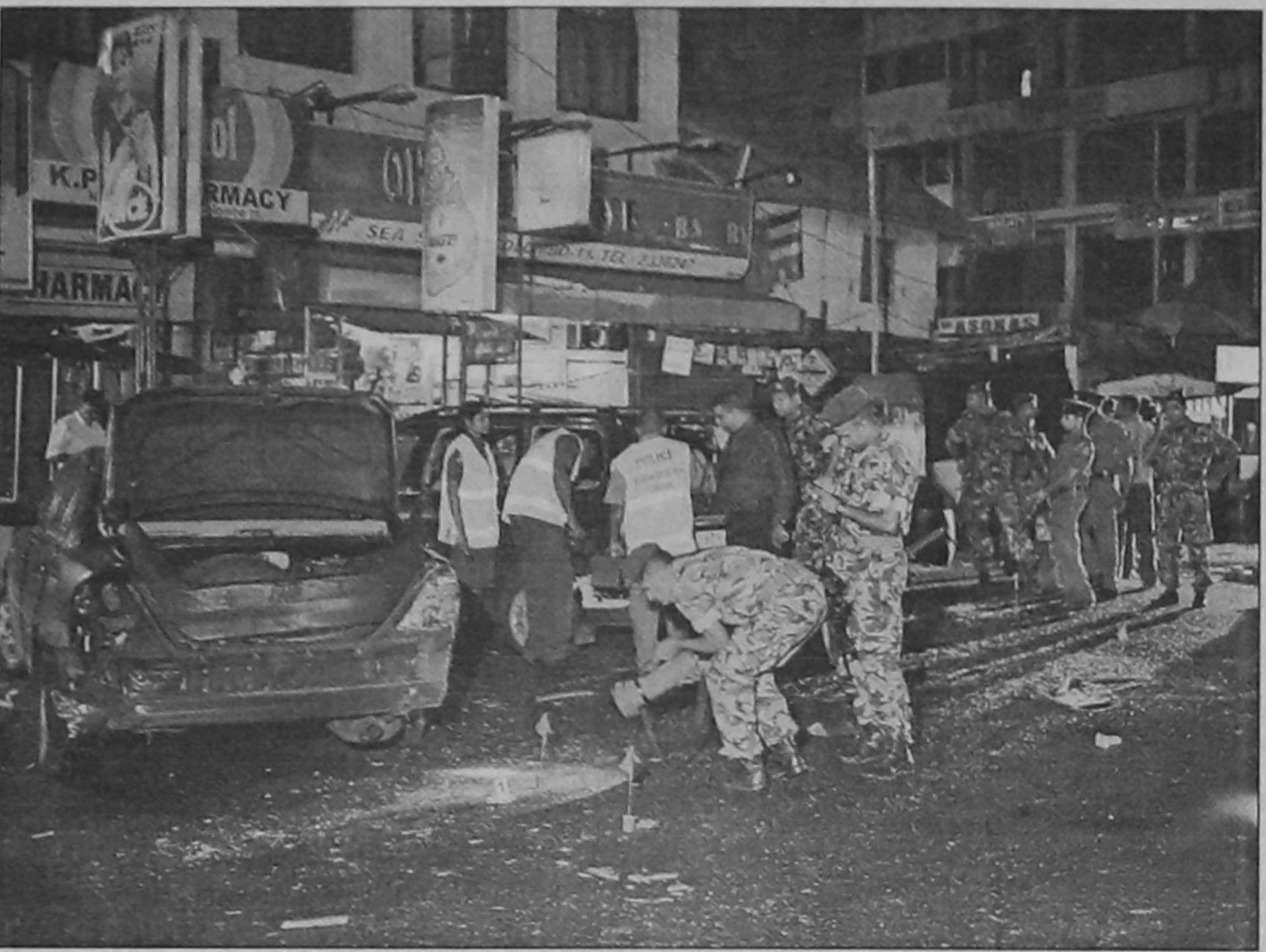


Pakistan's new President Asif Ali Zardari (R) together with his Afghan counterpart Hamid Karzai address a joint press conference at the Presidential Palace in Islamabad yesterday.

Shiv Sena targets King Khan

PTI, Mumbai

After MNS Chief Raj Thackeray's attack on Jaya Bachchan over her alleged anti-Marathi remarks, Shiv Sena has now targeted Bollywood 'badshah' Shah Rukh Khan for his Delhi origin.



Sri Lanka's Special Task Force commandos investigate the scene where a bomb blasted in a car on Monday at Colombo's Gas Works' Street. At least 10 people were wounded in a minor bomb blast in Sri Lanka's capital on Monday night, police said.

US-India nuclear deal faces final hurdle

Bush 'hopeful' US Congress would endorse accord

AFF, Washington

The United States faces a final hurdle in the implementation of a landmark civilian nuclear pact with India -- convincing lawmakers that the deal has adequate safeguards as prescribed by US law.

Austria and Ireland expressed reservation about opening up nuclear commerce with India, which is not a member of the nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

'Pakistan, Afghanistan united in terror fight'

relations between the two countries but for the region, that I have seen for the first time in this region," Karzai said.

Pakistan's new President Asif Ali Zardari and his Afghan counterpart Hamid Karzai said here yesterday they would stand together in the fight against terrorism.

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