

Woman bomber kills 35 in Baghdad shrine

AFP, Baghdad

A woman suicide bomber killed 35 people, including women and children, and wounded 65 others on a religious march near the Kadhimiyah shrine in northern Baghdad yesterday, a government official said.

"A woman wearing an explosive belt blew herself up near one of the gates of the shrine," Major General Qasim Atta told AFP.

"According to our first preliminary report 35 were killed and 65 injured. Most of them were Iranian pilgrims and women and children," said Atta, who is Iraqi spokesman for security operations in Baghdad.

He described the force of the blast as "very big."

An interior ministry official put the death toll at 38. The US military said it was aware of the bombing but was awaiting a

casualty report.

The attack was the deadliest in Iraq since December 11 when at least 55 people were killed and 95 wounded in a suicide bombing at a restaurant outside the northern city of Kirkuk.

Sunday's attack came just two days after a male suicide bomber killed at least 23 people and wounded 72 at a tribal meeting just south of Baghdad.

Suicide bombings in particular are a hallmark of insurgents linked to the al-Qaeda network.

The latest bombing is likely to raise concerns about the ability of Iraqi forces to maintain security in the capital after the United States handed back part of the security brief to Iraqi forces on January 1, as mandated by United Nations.

Attacks of all types have been sharply down across Iraq in recent months according to US commanders, who recognise however that insurgents

appear able still to strike throughout the country and that with provincial elections scheduled for January 31, an increase in violence is likely.

In December, a total of 316 Iraqis were killed in political violence across Iraq, the lowest monthly death toll in nearly three years, according to official figures released on Thursday.

In all, 6,772 Iraqis were killed in Iraq last year, down from 17,430 in 2007.

A defence ministry official said Sunday's attack came at about 11am (0800 GMT) as pilgrims, many of them Iranians, took part in the procession related to the Ashura ceremonies that climax on January 7.

The ceremonies mourn the killing of Imam Hussein by armies of the Sunni caliph Yazid in the year 680 and Shia Muslim pilgrims from around the Middle East throng to Iraq to visit the nation's holy sites.

Two dead, 20 missing in Nepal boat accident

AFP, Kathmandu

At least two people drowned and another 20 were missing after a crowded ferry capsized on Sunday in a river in eastern Nepal, police said.

"The bodies of two people have been recovered some five kilometres (three miles) downstream near the Indian border and around 20 are still missing," police officer Chakra Basnet told AFP.

"The number of the people on board has remained sketchy but some of the survivors said the number was around 40."

Around 10 passengers were rescued and seven others swam to safety, said Basnet, who was involved in the rescue operation in Sunsari district, 230 kilometres (145 miles) southeast of Kathmandu.



PHOTO: AFP

An elderly Sri Lankan man sits under posters on a street in Colombo yesterday, featuring an image of Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapakse and hailing the military's capture of the Tamil Tiger political headquarters of Kilinochchi in the north of the country.

Captured rebel land in Lanka deserted

AP, Kilinochchi District

The main highway running through what was once Sri Lanka's rebel heartland was nearly deserted Sunday, except for some stray dogs and abandoned cows.

Two days after the military captured the Tamil Tigers' administrative capital of Kilinochchi, the government led a victory tour of the newly seized areas, even as fighting raged on in the north and east as soldiers sought to capture the rebels' last jungle strongholds.

The land surrounding Kilinochchi was eerily abandoned.

The scattered buildings lining the road have been pulverised by shelling. Army demining teams waved mine detectors over the road bed and dug up the middle of the A-9 highway searching for booby traps left behind by the fleeing rebels.

Hundreds of thousands of civilians lived in the Kilinochchi district and other regions that were controlled by the rebels before new fighting in the quarter-century civil war erupted again three years ago. Those people have disappeared into the jungles as well, fleeing ahead of the recent government offensive.

The government has barred independent journalists from travelling to this area for a year and a half, but it agreed to bring reporters here to show off its success in driving the rebels out of their main stronghold.

"Day by day, the Tigers' territory is shrinking and their numbers are dwindling. The objective of finishing this war won't be that long off," said Maj Gen Jagath Dias, who commanded the battle for the town of Kilinochchi.

Rebel spokesmen were not available for comment, but previous efforts to destroy the group have failed.



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistani policemen guard oil-trucks carrying Nato supplies crossing the Pakistan-Afghanistan border in Chaman yesterday. Pakistani security forces briefly reopened a key northwest supply route for Western troops in Afghanistan on January 2, three days after shutting it to drive out militants from the area.

Fierce gunbattle in Kashmir continuing for 60 hours

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Jammu

A fierce gunbattle between security forces and separatist militants continues to rage yesterday in the dense mountainous forest in frontier Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir after over 60 hours in which seven people - four militants and three security personnel - have been killed.

The army laid siege to the Pati Tar mountainous forest near Mendhar in Poonch Thursday following a tip off about the presence of a group

of hardcore militants in hideouts there. Some top commanders of Pakistan based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JEM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terror outfits are reported to be present in the hideouts.

The army lost two soldiers when they came under heavy fire while laying cordon.

Col DK Kachari, spokesman of the army Northern Command at Udhampur, said the troops had killed four militants but their bodies were not recovered. He said: "Soldiers on the ground have sighted the bodies."

No hope for future of Myanmar: Opposition

AP, Yangon

Myanmar's pro-democracy party marked the 61st anniversary of the country's independence from Great Britain on Sunday, saying it foresaw no hope for the military-ruled country.

At a ceremony inside the dilapidated headquarters of the opposition National League for Democracy, its chairman Aung Shwe also called for the release of Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi and other party leaders.

Suu Kyi - who has been under house arrest for more than 13 of the past 19 years - put up a banner at the gate of her home quoting a speech her father, independence hero Gen. Aung San, had once given: "Act decisively in the interest of the nation and the people."

Fireworks factory blast kills 13 in E China

AP, Beijing

An explosion at an illegal fireworks factory in eastern China killed 13 people, state media reported Sunday.

The blast occurred Saturday in an abandoned kiln being used illegally to produce fireworks in the city of Weifang in Shandong province, said the official Xinhua News Agency.

The local government first reported three people had been killed, but the death toll rose to 13 as more bodies were found Sunday, it said.

Accidents in Chinese factories are common, with thousands dying every year in part because of lax enforcement of safety rules. Fireworks factories, many of them illegal, are notoriously unsafe.

Quake rattles Afghanistan, Pakistan

AFP, Kabul

A moderate earthquake shook northeastern Afghanistan Sunday, sending people running from their homes, but there were no immediate reports of damage, witnesses and officials said.

The 5.9-magnitude quake struck at 12:53 am (2023 GMT Saturday), around 255 kilometres (160 miles) northeast of the capital Kabul and near the border with Pakistan, the US Geological Survey said.

The quake, which struck in the remote Hindu Kush mountain range, was registered at a depth of 220 kilometres, it said. In the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif and as far away as Kabul, people fled their homes out of fear that buildings could topple, witnesses in both cities told AFP.

Government officials in the northern provinces said they did not yet have reports of damage or casualties but were continuing to gather information from remote areas.

Series of quakes kills 4 in Indonesia

AP, Jakarta

A series of powerful earthquakes at dawn yesterday killed at least four people and injured dozens more in remote eastern Indonesia, cutting power lines and destroying buildings.

One of the quakes - a 7.3-magnitude tremor - was felt as far away as Australia and sent small tsunamis into Japan's

southeastern coast, but there were no reports of damage there and no tsunami in Indonesia's impoverished Papua area.

The first 7.6-magnitude quake struck at 4:43 a.m. local time (1943 GMT) on land about 135 km from Manokwari, Papua, at a depth of 35 km, the US Geological Survey said. It was followed by dozens of aftershocks.

At least four people died in

Papua, and the airport runway nearest the epicentre was cracked, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono told reporters. Commercial flights to the area were cancelled.

"I've instructed emergency steps be taken to help our brothers and to restore power and other vital utilities," he said without commenting on how widespread the damage might be.

Directorate General Defence Purchase
Ministry of Defence
New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.
Web: www.dgdp.gov.bd
E-mail: info@dgdp.gov.bd

Re-Tender Notice

1. Sealed tenders in local currency are invited from bonafide manufacturers/suppliers (enlisted firms in DGDP) for supply of the following items for Bangladesh Armed Forces:

Ser No	Nomenclature	Date of selling		Date of opening	Currency	Tender No.
		From	To			
a.	Dal Masur (Whole without husk) 400 Metric Tons	12-01-2009	20-01-2009	21-01-2009	Local	959/P-8

2. Tender schedule with detailed specifications/conditions will be available on payment as per IT selling rate (non-refundable) during office time between 0800 hours to 1300 hours. The tender can be dropped latest by 1000 hours and opened at 1005 hours on the specified date of opening in presence of all tenderer (if present).

ISPR/Misc/08/2713

GD-38

Major

For Director General

ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LIMITED
(An enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Ashuganj, B.Baria-3402, Bangladesh.

সূত্র: এম.এ.পি.এস.সি./এসি.এম.সি.-০২/২০০৯/১০

৯৮-০৬/০১/২০০৯ই

"পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি"

০১)	সহযোগিতা / বিকল্প	১	বিশ্ববাসী ও বন্যজ সম্পদ ব্যবস্থাপনা / বিশ্ববাসী বিভাগ।
০২)	একোজ / জৈবজাতের নাম	১	আশুগঞ্জ পাওয়ার স্টেশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড।
০৩)	জৈবিক/জৈবিক	১	আশুগঞ্জ (জৈবিক/জৈবিক) বিভাগ, আশুগঞ্জ পাওয়ার স্টেশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড।
০৪)	জৈবিক/জৈবিক	১	বি-বারীয়া, মহাপাশা।
০৫)	জৈবিক/জৈবিক	১	মোলা মহাপাশা।
০৬)	জৈবিক/জৈবিক	১	আশুগঞ্জ পাওয়ার স্টেশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেডের জৈবিক/জৈবিক বিভাগ।
০৭)	সহযোগিতা/জৈবিক	১	০৫/০