INTERNATIONAL



Communist party of India-Marxist (CPIM) parliamentary candidate Mohammed Selim (C) gestures as he takes part in a election campaign march in Kolkata yesterday. CPI-M and eight other left-leaning and regional parties launched the campaign under the banner of the "Third Front," ahead of the April

16 to May 13 general elections.

Pak militants torch Nato trucks

AFP, Peshawar

Taliban militants in northwestern Pakistan AFP. torched eight trucks carrying supplies for Nato forces in neighbouring Afghanistan in a predawn attack yesterday, police said.

aged when the militants, armed with automatic injured, but the militants fled to the neighbourweapons and rockets, attacked a terminal on ingtribal area. the outskirts of Peshawar city.

truck terminal on the ring road on the city's escape," Khan said.

outskirts and destroyed eight trucks completely," local police official Gohar Khan told

"The militants also torched 12 more trucks and trailers."

Khan said police arrived during the attack, A dozen more trucks and trailers were dam- in which the two truck drivers were shot and

"Our policemen exchanged gunfire with the "Taliban militants fired four rockets on a militants for half an hour but they managed to

Bangladesh

BSP will not align with Taliban chief backs any other party

Says Mayawati

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE,

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) supremo Mayawati said on Sunday her party would fight the Lok Sabha polls on its own but did not rule out an alliance with the Third Front after the elections.

Hours before she hosts a dinner for Third Front leaders at her new residence in New Delhi, Mayawati ruled out any pre-poll alliance with other parties. Though she has ruled out any prepoll alliance, the BSP chief had sent her trusted emissary Satish Misra to the launch function of the Third Front in Tumkur on Thursday - a move to keep much and talking less... we all her options open.

"This time the Bahujan these elections." Samaj Party will fight the elections on its own. We are fully prepared and we will not align with any other political party," Mayawati

New Delhi on the birth anniversary of BSP founder appeal Kanshi Ram.

She also refuted speculation that the dinner diplomacy was aimed to float a prime ministerial candidate for the power. Third Front, saying: "There will be no discussion on a prime ministerial candidate or pre-poll alliances, all that will be after the polls."

The BSP chief, who is known to be a keen contender tion. for the country's top job, was silent on her own prime ministerial ambitions.

Declining to comment about her prime ministerial candidature, Mayawati said: "We will decide this after the election results."

"BSP believes in doing to power." hope to get good results in

"We (the BSP and the Third Front) will fight elections separately. And we will join together to keep both the BJP and the Congress out of

told reporters at a function in power," Mayawati said while releasing the party's election

She also expressed the hope that the Left parties would help the BSP to keep the Congress and BJP away from

She clarified that Sunday's dinner meeting with leaders of the Third Front was part of the house warming ceremony of her new address in the capital and had no political connota-

She said her party would soon announce the seats it would contest.

Attacking the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government, the BSP supremo said: "We must not allow the same party to return

Recalling Kanshi Ram's dream of the BSP coming to power at the centre, she said: "Our party is an alternative to the BJP and Congress."

"For the past 61 years, nobody has thought about the economic position of the

Afghan peace talks

Four Nato soldiers killed in blast

ANI, AFP, Kabul

Taliban leader Mullah Omar has given his approval for talks aimed at ending the war in Afghanistan and has allowed his representatives to attend Saudi-sponsored peace nego-

Mullah Omar has given the green light to talks," said one of the mediators, Abdullah Anas, a former friend of Osama Bin Laden who used to fight in Afghanistan but now lives in London.

after President Barack Obama admitted that US-led forces are not winning the war in Afghanistan and called for negotiations with "moderate Taliban".

A Sunday Times poll published today found that 64 percent of respondents favour talking to the Taliban to achieve

Some 69 percent said the aim of stabilising Afghanistan was not sufficiently worthwhile to risk the lives of British troops and 64 percent thought the war could never be won.

"Economic development and a workable reconciliation strategy are as crucial as boots

on the ground when it comes to dismantling the insurgency," said British Foreign Secretary

David Miliband. Although we have demonized the Taliban for years, it was Mullah Omer that said: "All problems can be solved at the negotiating table" before our invasion. They are not fools or demons if we just take time and talk and stop delivering ultima-

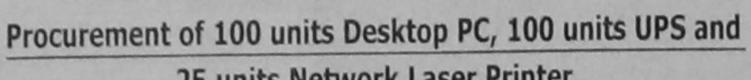
Meanwhile, four international soldiers in a Nato-led The breakthrough emerged coalition fighting insurgents in Afghanistan were killed in a bomb strike Sunday, the International Security Assistance Force said.

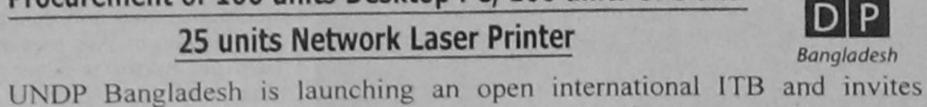
The insurgent Taliban movement claimed responsibility for the attack in the eastern province of Nangarhar.

"It was an IED (improvised explosive device). Four soldiers were killed," an Isaf spokesman at the force's Kabul headquarters told AFP.

The alliance force does not release the nationalities of its casualties but most troops in eastern Afghanistan are from the US military, which has about 38,000 soldiers in the warstricken country.

Invitation To Bid (ITB)





Sealed Bids from interested manufacturer/ authorized agents/ Dealers & Distributors with the detailed specification and price in supplying of the following Lot's /items:

Lot/Item	Description	Quantity
Lot1.	Desktop Computer	100
Lot 2.	Network Laser Printer	25
Lot 3.	UPS	100

Submission of Bid: The envelope should state "Bid for 100 units Desktop PC, 100 units UPS and 25 units Network Laser Printer" and should be marked as 'Confidential'. The selection of Bids will be done based on the UNDP procurement rules and regulations and only the successful bidder(s) will be contacted. However, UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any bid(s) without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

All interested firms may request the Bidding Documents at the above address by formal request to UNDP that will register firm on the list of participants, so that any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and their respective answers can be sent to all bidders.

The detailed bid documents are available: parvin.akther@undp.org. Hardcopy of specifications are also available at the Procurement Cluster of UNDP, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka. Bids must be submitted before 16.30 hrs on 05 April 2009.

Israel was ready to sign peace deal

Says Olmert

AFP, Jerusalem

Israel's outgoing Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said yesterday that his government had been ready to sign a peace deal with the Palestinians but that they had lacked the courage to do so.

"The peace negotiations with the Palestinians had made a big step forward and were more interesting and deeper than any talks held in the past by any government, including (then premier, now outgoing Defence Minister) Ehud Barak at Camp David (in the United States in 2000), "Olmert said.

"The fact that we haven't reached one (a peace agreement) so far is due to the weakness and lack of courage on the part of the Palestinian leaders," he told the weekly cabinet meeting, likely to be one of his

"We were ready to sign a peace deal but the Palestinians unfortunately did not have the courage to do so," he said.

A spokesman for Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas slammed the remarks.

"What Olmert says is entirely false," Nabil Abu Rudeina told AFP.

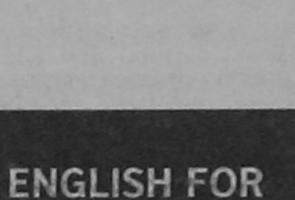
"The proposals (during the talks) did not include conditions for the creation of an independent Palestinian state on all Palestinian territory occupied in 1967 with east Jerusalem as its capital.'

"Israel did not present a single map and not a single serious position that could lead to a real peace on the base of two states," he said.

In November, Abbas charged that he had been unable to reach agreement with Israel on a single issue in 12

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· For fresh graduates: One letter of reference from academic institution last attended

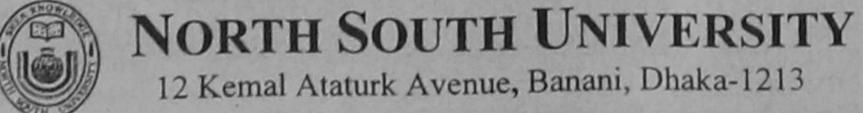
Female candidates are encouraged to apply

Application Fee: TK. 500/- Interested applicants are requested to collect the Application Form from: (The office of the Director of Accounts): Star Tower (7th Floor) North South University, 12 Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka-1213.

Application Form Distribution: 1 April - 15 April 2009 Application Deadline: 20 April 2009 Admission Test: 1 May 2009 Time: 09:30 am - 11:30 am

For further information, please contact:

MPPG Program Office, Department of General and Continuing Education Flat: 10B, House # 22, Ataturk Tower, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka 1213, Bangladesh. Tel: 8812250, 9885611-20/Ext. 572, e-mail: sabrina@northsouth.edu



Khatami to quit race for Iran presidency

AFP, Tehran

Iran's reformist ex-president Mohammad Khatami is considering withdrawing from the June presidential election, local news agencies Fars and Mehr reported yesterday.

Mehr quoted a source close to Khatami as saying the former president during a meeting with members of his campaign had indicated he would withdraw. It did not say when the official announcement

was expected. Fars reported that Khatami had decided to withdraw from the election race but gave no

details. A close aide of Khatami told AFP that there "was no decision yet.

Goody close to end, wants to be remembered as a fighter

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE,

Cancer-stricken British reality television star Jade Goody who is reported to be close to her end has said in a final interview that she wants to be remembered as a fighter.

Goody, 27, hopes to be remembered as a colourful and vibrant character who refused to be crushed by her cancer battle, dailymail.co.uk reports.

Goody is said to be "on the edge of a precipice" as her condition deteriorated Saturday night leading to fears she may not live more than a day. The actress said she

thought people would think of her as "a mouthy bird who irritated and entertained people in equal measure". "But I also want to be remembered as the girl who put up a fight and would never

let herself get beaten down. I

was given a death sentence

but I didn't let it kill me."

ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LIMITED (An enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Ashuganj, B.Baria-3402, Bangladesh.

"Invitation For International Tender"

01.	Ministry/Division		Ministry of power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Power Division				
02.	Agency	: Ashuganj Pow					
03.	Procuring Entity Name		Convener, Procurement Committee, APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria				
04.	Procuring Entity District	:	Brahman Baria, Bangladesh				
05.	Invitation for	:	a) Supply of Disposable Filter Pad for GT-1 & GT-2 of CCPP, APSCL b) Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 150 k. Air Compresso Motor for Unit No.5, APSCL				
06.	Invitation Ref No	1	Memo No.APSCL/Pto-1/2009/326				
07.	Date		14/03/2009				
08.	Procurement Method	2.0	International Open Tendering Method.				
09.	Source of Funds		APSCL'S Own Fund.				
10.	Tender Publication Date	:	14/03/2009				
11.	Tender Last Selling Date		28/04/2009 during office hour				
12.	Tender Closing Date and Time	:	29/04/2009 at BST 12 90				
13.	Tender Opening Date and Time	-	29/04/2009 at BST 12 30				
14.	Name & Address of the Offices	-					
a	-Selling Tender Documents.		(i) Director (Purchase), Bangladesh Power Development Board, WAPDA Bhavan (9th floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. (ii) Manager (Finance), APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria				
b.	Receiving & Opening Tender Documents		Office of the Convener, Procurement Committee, APSCI. Ashuganj, B-Baria				
15.	Eligibility of Tenderer		Renowned Supplier having experience of supply as specified in the Tender Document.				
16.							
SL No	Name of Item	Pr	ice of Tender Documents	Amount of Tender Security	Completion		
a.	Supply of Disposable Filter Pad for GT-1 & GT-2 of CCPP, APSCL	1	on refundable Tk. 1,000/- In favour of Ashugany Power Station Company	US\$ 850 00 or BDT 60,000/- In favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited in the form of Pay	60 days from the date of L/C		

		(ii) Manager (Finance), A					
b.	Receiving & Opening Tender Documents		Office of the Convener, Procurement Committee, APSCI. Ashuganj, B-Baria				
15.	Eligibility of Tenderer	Renowned Supplier having experience of supply as specified in the Tender Document.					
16.				Constalian			
SL No	Name of Item	Price of Tender Documents	Amount of Tender Security	Completion			
a.	Supply of Disposable Filter Pad for GT-1 & GT-2 of CCPP, APSCL	Non refundable Tk. 1,000/- In favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited in the form of Pay Order / Bank Draft from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh	US\$ 850 00 or BDT 60,000/- In favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited in the form of Pay Order / Bank Draft/ Bank Guarantee from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh	60 days from the date of L/0 opening			
b.	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 150 KW Air Compressor Motor for Unit No.5, APSCL	Non refundable Tk. 1,000/- In favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited in the form of Pay Order / Bank Draft from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh	US\$ 500.00 or BDT 35,000/- In favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited in the form of Pay Order / Bank Draft/ Bank Guarantee from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh	90 days from the date of L/C opening			
17.	Name of official Inviting Tender		A.M.M. Sazzadur Rahman				
18.	Designation of official	Convener, Procurement co	Convener, Procurement committee				

Ashuganj Power Station Co. Ltd. Ashuganj B-Baria, Bangladesh

Tel :0088-08528-74033 Fax : 0088-08528-74044

E-mail: procurement@apsel.com, Website : www.apsel.com (A M M Sazzadył Rehman) Procurement Committee. APSCL, Ashugani, B-Barra,