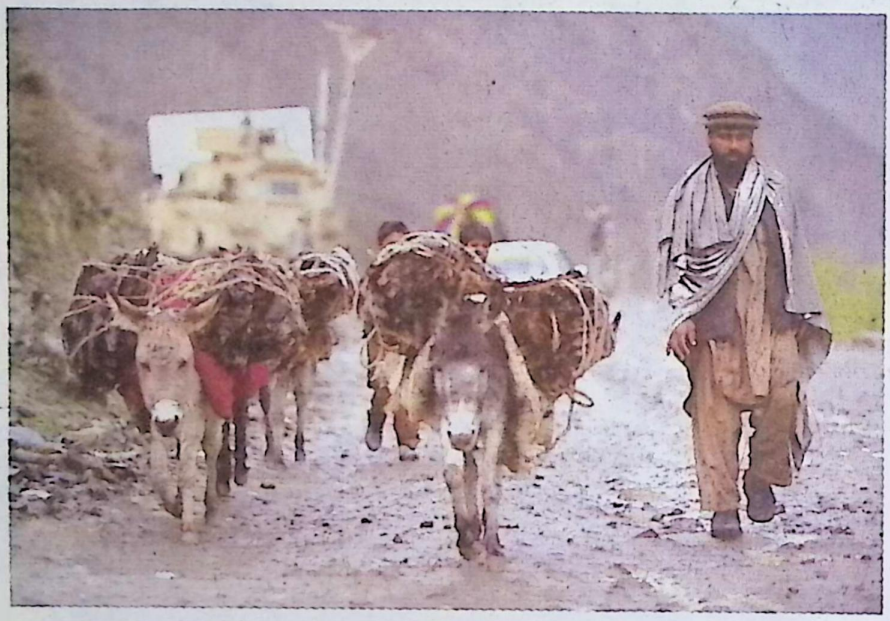
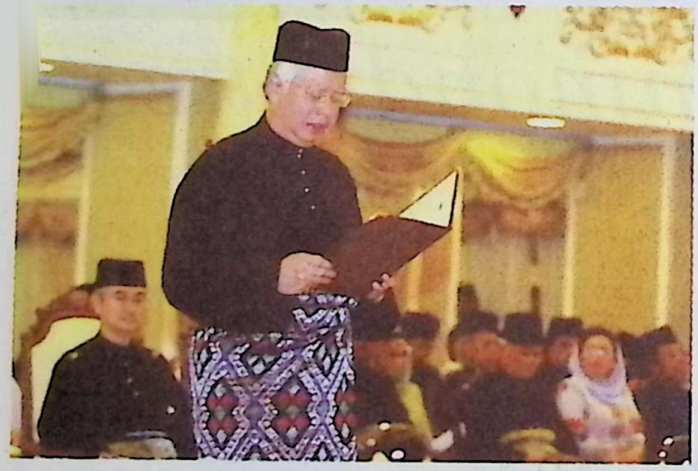


An Afghan farmer herds his donkeys loaded with firewood near the Dokalam border post in Afghanistan's eastern Kunar province. US President Barack Obama, unveiling his new strategy for the dragging Afghan war last month, put Pakistan at the heart of the fight to defeat Al-Qaeda and vowed to boost US aid and assistance to the South Asian nation. Obama has pledged to send 17,000 more troops into Afghanistan on top of the 60,000 already here with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), with most of those are expected to head to the south and east.



This hand-out photo provided by Bernama shows Malaysia's new Prime Minister Najib Razak taking the oath in front of the King Sultan Mizan (not seen in picture) during a ceremony at the palace in Kuala Lumpur. Najib Razak was sworn in as Malaysia's prime minister, assuming charge of reuniting a fractured ruling party and shoring up an economy in crisis.



India's Congress Party President Sonia Gandhi waves to supporters as she arrives to file her election nomination papers in her constituency of Raebareli. India holds its 15th parliamentary general elections in five phases on April 16, April 23, April 30, May 7 and May 13 and the new Parliament will be constituted before June 2, 2009.

Sri Lanka unrest

Hundreds of rebels dead after four days of combat, military officials said Monday

