

Iran's remark on Israel 'interesting'

AFP, Berlin Sunday.
Germany yesterday described as "interesting" comments by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad indicating Tehran would accept a "two-state" peace deal between the Palestinians and Israel.
"They are interesting remarks of which we certainly took note," foreign ministry spokesman Jens Ploetner told a regular government news conference when asked about Ahmadinejad's interview with US network ABC broadcast

Ploetner said it was now important to see whether Iran's "actions match these words", adding that Germany sought a "partnership with Iran" but that it was up to Tehran to take steps to make such cooperation possible.
Having previously called for Israel to be erased from the map, Ahmadinejad appeared to hold out a potential olive branch in the interview in backing the Palestinians' right to pursue a deal for statehood alongside Iran's arch-enemy.

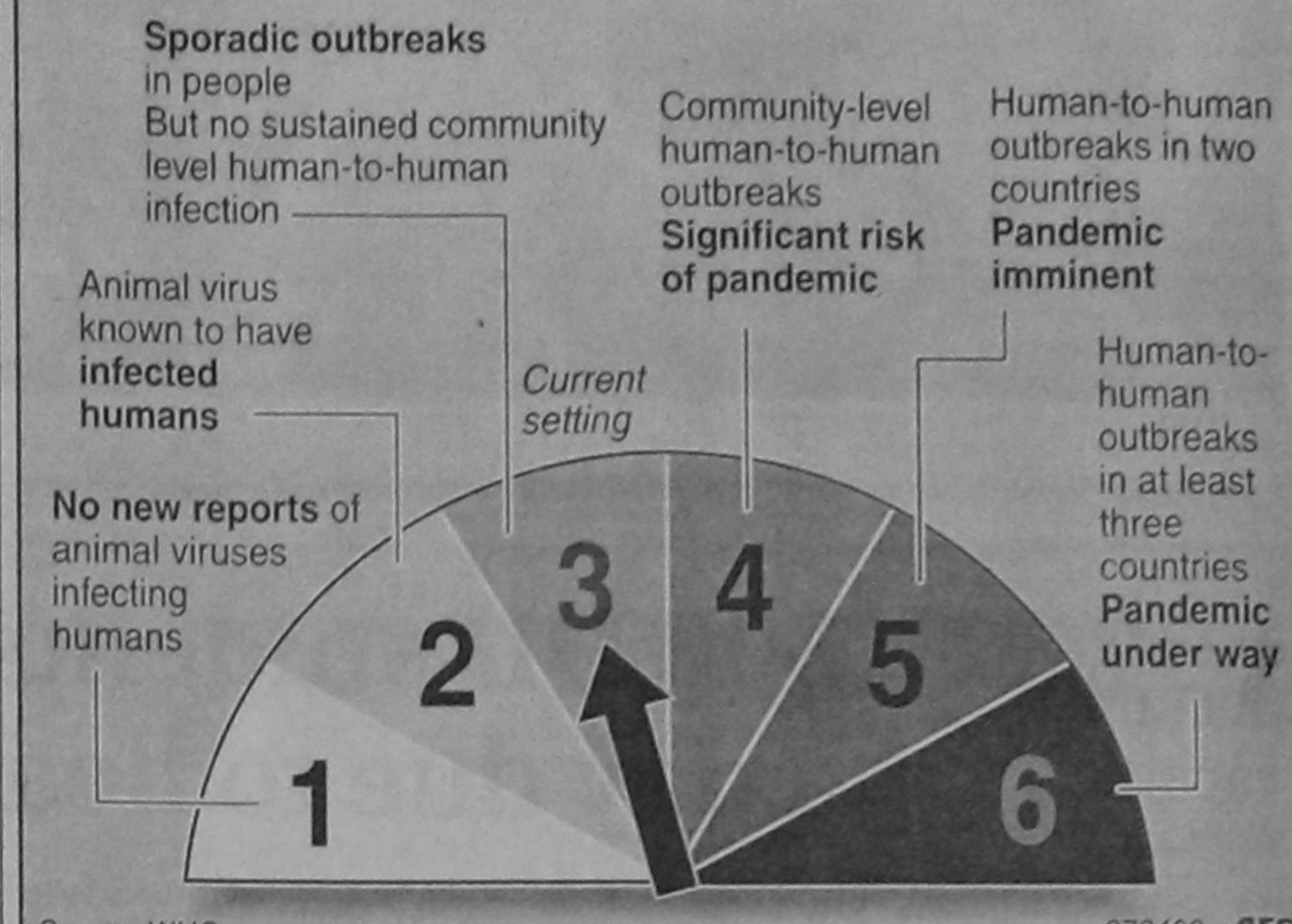
Abbas refuses to accept Israel as Jewish state

AFP, Ramallah
Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas yesterday refused to accept Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's demand to recognise Israel as a Jewish state.
"A Jewish state, what is that supposed to mean?" Abbas asked in a speech in the West Bank's political capital of Ramallah. "You can call yourselves as you like, but I don't accept it and I say so publicly."
Abbas said the topic was "extensively discussed" and rejected by the Palestinians during a November 2007 international conference in Annapolis, near Washington, during which the two sides launched peace negotiations.
Netanyahu has demanded the Palestinians recognise Israel as a Jewish state as part of an eventual peace deal.
Such a move would amount to an effective renunciation of the right of return of refugees from the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, when Israel was created, a cherished principle of the Palestinians.
Abbas also criticised Israel's firebrand Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman, who said the new cabinet was not bound by the previous

government's decision taken at Annapolis to relaunch peace talks with the Palestinians.
"Lieberman is in a class by himself. He has yet to learn the art of politics and he has not yet practised politics enough. He is an adversary, he has come to say 'no' and 'I reject' and every chance he gets he comes up with a new refrain," he said.
On the latest round of Palestinian reconciliation talks which opened on Monday in Cairo, Abbas said if the parties managed to form a unity government, that cabinet would have to abide by past Israeli-Palestinian accords.
"It is the government and its members that should respect such deals and not movements," Abbas said.
He was referring to the Hamas movement ruling Gaza whose refusal to recognise past deals, to renounce violence and to recognise Israel has prompted the West to blacklist the Islamist group as a terror outfit.
Should the Palestinians form a unity government, the cabinet's top priority will be reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, where the Israeli military carried out a devastating 22-day offensive in December-January.

WHO alert system

Six-phase preparedness plan by the World Health Organisation



French President Nicolas Sarkozy's wife Carla Bruni-Sarkozy (L), Spain's Queen Sofia (C) and Spain's Princess Letizia (R) meet for lunch at the Zarzuela Palace in Madrid yesterday.

Delwar

FROM PAGE 1
Secretary General Goyeshwar Chandra Roy yesterday blamed "over-enthusiasm" of some workers. "A group of workers who always want to serve their own leaders are behind the conflict."
"It is natural that leaders will try to show their political strength to ensure their position in the committee but it will not continue after announcement of the committee," he said.
Against this backdrop, the party is going to hold a rally in the capital on Saturday marking May Day. This would be the first public meeting of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in the city after December-29 election debacle.
BNP is facing serious problems in organising the rally due to the weakness of Dhaka City Unit.
"There is no committee for Dhaka City Unit even though it is the most important unit of the party," said a leader of the unit.
Most of pro-BNP ward councillors of Dhaka City

Corporation are with Khoka while some senior leaders including a member of the BNP standing committee is backing Mirza Abbas.
Khoka's supporters alleged that the party secretary general is backing Abbas while Abbas's men claim that they would not tolerate any person in the city unit committee who sided with the reformist faction after January 11, 2007.
Meanwhile, a group of senior leaders of BNP are mounting pressure on party leadership to bring changes to the post of secretary general. They believe Khandaker Delwar Hossain failed to boost morale of party activists across the country.
Delwar is now facing competition for the post from some of his party colleagues who are taking advantages of the current "bad time" of the party.
Party insiders say that the current internal disputes created uncertainty over the success of the ongoing party reorganising initiatives.

3-wheel drivers

FROM PAGE 16
At one stage, they started damaging vehicles parked in front of the motor parts shops on both sides of Sheikh Mujib Road resulting in a clash with the local automobile traders at about 1:00 pm that left over 30 people injured.
The traders also manhandled five photojournalists, including Mashur Rahman Badal of Jai Jai Din, Projesh Chakrabarty of local daily Suprabhat Bangladesh and AUS Dulal of local daily People's View, during the melee.
As police rushed to the spot and charged batons to disperse them, the drivers gathered and barricaded on Tigerpass intersection.
They were drove away from the road after a hot chase by police and locals at about 2:00 pm. The barricade resulted serious tail-back at Kadamtali, Dewanhat and Lalkhan Bazar areas.
The CNR drivers enforced the strike to protest the on going drive and alleged harassment as well as to press home their five-point demand.

The demands include an end to detaining and filing cases against auto-rickshaws, implementation of government order to give the owner Tk 450 daily, stopping harassment of drives, ensuring security of the vehicles and drivers and providing parking spaces at the city's important points.
Chittagong Metropolitan Auto-rickshaw and Auto-tempo Workers' Welfare Union President Mohammad Kamal Uddin alleged that police has been harassing the drivers in the name of drives though they have no security since the muggers snatched the auto-rickshaw killing the drivers.
C M P Deputy Commissioner of Traffic Department Mainul Islam said "We called them to sit in a meeting to settle the matter and we will consider their logical demands."
But the union leaders did not turn up in the meeting held at CMP headquarters at around 4:30 pm with C M P Commissioner Md Moniruzzaman in the chair.

Revenue goal

FROM PAGE 16
March, they were running a deficit of Tk 2,500 to 3,000 crore compared to its target in this period.
Finance ministry sources said they might slash the NBR's revenue collection target by Tk 1,500 crore and fix it at Tk 53,000 crore. For this reason, they set the revenue-earning target of NBR at Tk 62,000 crore for the next FY. But now they have cut it down.
Sources said the NBR is going to take different steps to fulfil the revenue-earning target. At present, 57 items enjoy tax and duty exemption while the number of items may be brought down to 30 in the next FY.
Different court and transport fees would be increased. As there is a possibility of import tax going down drastically due to global recession, emphasis will be laid on VAT and income tax. VAT net would be expanded. However, NBR is still review-

ing in which sectors the fees, tax and duties would be increased.
Setting up NBR offices at upazila level may be considered to collect VAT and income tax from the upazila levels.
The finance minister while announcing the recession package said the revenue administration infrastructure would be expanded to upazila level in phases so that people can be benefitted from it.
Besides, the government will bring massive changes in Income Tax Act, VAT Act and Customs Act to increase tax collection.
Scopes for whitening black money would be given by paying taxes. NBR sources said it would make a positive impact on tax collection, as many persons will avail the chance from home and abroad. The NBR thinks about imposing more than 10 per cent tax on black money.



Foundation Day of Faujdarhat Cadet College

The pioneer cadet college in the land, foundation date: 28th April, 1958

Tribute to founding Principal



William Maurice Brown, Lt. Colonel, Squadron Leader, recipient of Britain's Order of British Empire, Observer (Extra Ordinary) of the United Nations, New Zealand government minister, mountain climber, shooter, boxer, cricketer, teacher, administrator, builder, humanist, internationalist was the chief architect of cadet colleges in the country. The long time Principal of Faujdarhat Cadet College had left his disciples for eternal peace but his legend will continue to live. Long live father Brown.

Goodwill Statement

- "Right at this moment it's a nostalgia that embarrasses me & I find it difficult to express myself in words - I am overwhelmed. May Cadet College live ever after". Prof A T M Nasir Chowdhury one of the first faculty
- "Cadet College Education nurtures talents, polishes good natures and eliminates bad ones, indicating the golden and graceful harvest of learning of international standard". Prof A Ashraf Noor Former Principal, bilingual poet, columnist
- "A great finishing to a mile stone, in a great race". Prof Syed Salimullah Former Principal
- "It's definitely a glorious milestone in the history of this premier cadet college of the country and we take a genuine pride in it". Prof Rafiq Imam one of the first faculty
- "Cadet college made me, what I am today". Ofn Mamun Rashid Citi Country Officer-Bangladesh
- "Humility, modesty is the most what I learnt from Cadet College. The difference of the word education and been literate is the key which is imbued to the cadets. I cherish every bit of it. Ofn Giasuddin Quader Chowdhury ex Member of Parliament
- "Deeds not words", the Faujdarhat Cadet College motto, has guided me throughout my career and I urge the future generation Faujians to use their actions as their voice". Ofn Mirza Ejaz Ahmed Managing Director, HRC Group
- "Faujdarhat Cadet College has imparted a unique and all round education to me. Its sheer world class, enabling its pupils to compete anywhere in the world". Ofn Anis A. Khan Managing Director, Mutual Trust Bank
- "Cadet College instilled in my mind the value of impacting deeds - deeds that are planned, executed, assessed, refined, and mastered. I am a proud Faujjan". Ofn M Ataul Karim PhD, VP Research, Old Dominion University
- "I went to FCC as a little boy and returned six years later as a matured, responsible & disciplined person with an independent spirit. The institution molded me into an all round person and gave me the courage to take on any challenge. The inspiration still comes from the words 'Deeds, not Words'. Ofn Shafiq Uz Zaman MD, Coats Bangladesh Ltd.
- "For 50 years young boys have been made into complete young man with ability to face the realities of life and lead the nation with courage and honesty. I pray that each new intake will outshine the past and take the name of FCC to greater heights. Thank you FCC for all that I am today". Ofn Imran Ahmed Member of Parliament
- "Cadet College developing the mind, body and soul for the leaders of tomorrow". Ofn Sayeful Islam Former President, DCCI
- "Cadet College greatly guided, engrossed and dominated my most formative adolescent and youthful six years. It represented a high quality and holistic teaching-training by some of the best and dedicated teachers. I wish all past, present and future Cadets best wishes and all happiness". Ofn Atiq Rahman PhD, recipient of UN top Award for Environment "2008 Champions of the Earth"
- "One step is needed to make a thousand mile journey. With its motto 'Deeds not Words' Faujdarhat helped us to take that one small step". Ofn Manzoor Mannan Commissioner, ACC



Our Heroes



The gallant Old Faujians who embraced martyrdom in the War of Liberation for our motherland, Bangladesh
Ofn. Maj. Md. Abdul Khaleque (01) Ofn. Capt. A K M Nurul Absar (02)
Ofn. Md. Mosharraf Hossain (03) Ofn. Badiul Alam, Bir Bikram (07)
Ofn. Lt. Md. Anwar Hossain, Bir Uttam (07) Ofn. Capt. Md. Shamsul Huda (07)
Ofn. Mufiq Muhammed kased (08) Ofn. Z/Lt. Rafique Ahmed Sarker (10)

In our prayers

Old Faujians who embraced martyrdom at Pilkhana carnage



May the Almighty bless all the Faujians, Teachers and Staff members who left us for their heavenly abode.

The story of a Faujian

I joined Faujdarhat Cadet College in 1969. It was a dream for a successful life.
On 20th July, I arrived at the beautifully landscaped campus of Faujdarhat Cadet College. The Principal of the College greeted us with others saying, 'some people have landed in our campus just like Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin set their first step on the moon last night. Neil and Edwin created history for the mankind, our boys will do no less and we will be proud of them. Col. N. D. Ahmed was not wrong.
We were then introduced to a new way of life; extensive physical training, high standard classroom education, a disciplined way of life, even learning table manners and how to eat with fork and spoon. Away from parents, brothers and sisters, we formed a new family, seniors and juniors, teachers and instructors, adjutant and the Principal, and many support staff. The bugle call at 5:45 am in the morning until lights out at 9:30 pm, everyday we attended programmes which were tailored to think different, do better, and deliver quality in everything we were involved in.
Our Batch of '69 saw the first dream come true in the SSC and HSC examinations. Half the class of 32 cadets secured merit positions in the Group wise merit lists including the 1st, 2nd, 3rd positions in the combined merit list.
The journey of the talents reached new heights when they proved their worth in public life. The youngest professor in medical profession, brightest officers in civil and armed forces, scholars, technocrats, entrepreneurs all proved their worth with distinction.
This is my story and my friends. There are several hundreds more from 12 cadet colleges in Bangladesh who share similar experience. They are successful in their own spheres. They are credited with reliability, quality and leadership. Their efforts are acknowledged as contributions towards building our beloved nation.
Without any hesitation I can attribute our success to Cadet College education. Cadet College has harnessed the young minds to grow as performers. Cadet College has taught us to aim high and be focused. Cadet College has instilled in us a spirit to think out of the box, be different and travel the extra mile to achieve success.
I salute the people and the Government who have set up and maintained these fine institutions. I would like to say loud and clear, I owe my achievements to my Alma Mater, Faujdarhat Cadet College. And my debt to my Alma Mater will be repaid only when I can give back to the society what I received from it. The Faujians believe in 'Deeds not words'.
Long live Faujdarhat Cadet College. Long live Cadet College education.
Majedur Rahman

