

# Lanka president, rebels vow to fight on

AP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's president rejected international appeals for ceasefire in his nation's bloody civil war Thursday, as the Tamil Tiger rebels vowed never to surrender to the advancing government forces.

The defiant declarations came in the face of growing calls for Sri Lanka to halt its offensive against the rebels' last stronghold in the northeast to allow an estimated 50,000 civilians to flee the war zone.

"The government is not ready to enter into any kind of cease fire with the terrorists," President Mahinda Rajapaksa said in his first public comments since the British and French foreign ministers asked him to accept a humanitarian truce.

Rajapaksa said his government was trying to rescue the trapped civilians, and appeared impatient at the continued

demands for him to call off his forces.

"It is my duty to protect the people of this country. I don't need lectures from Western representatives," he said, according to highlights of a speech he delivered in the southeastern town of Embilipitiya that were distributed by his office.

Defense Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapaksa, the president's brother, said the war would not end until rebel leader Velupillai Prabhakaran is captured or killed, according to The Island newspaper.

The rebels, meanwhile, called on the international community to work harder to stop the war while also saying they wouldn't give up their fight.

"If any country really cares about these people, I ask that country to go beyond its diplomatic boundaries for the sake of saving human lives and make Sri Lanka stop this genocidal war," rebel political

chief Balasingam Nadesan told The Associated Press in an e-mail interview from the war zone.

In recent months, government troops have forced the Tamil Tigers out of the shadow state they controlled in the north of the country and cornered them in a tiny sliver of land along the northeast coast. The U.N. says nearly 6,500 ethnic Tamil civilians have been killed in the offensive.

The rebels called for a cease-fire Sunday; the government demanded the separatists surrender instead. Nadesan rejected that demand.

"Surrendering and laying down our arms are out of the question. Our freedom struggle will continue until (our) legitimate aspirations are met," he said.

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner and his British counterpart, David Miliband, came here Wednesday to express the EU's concern over the rising civilian death toll.

## Toy chopper sparks security scare in Indian parliament

AFP, New Delhi

A Chinese-made toy helicopter landed in India's heavily-fortified national parliament Wednesday, sparking a scare and a high security alert, police said.

The remotely-operated toy whizzed over the high walls of the parliament building in New Delhi and landed in its forecourt, setting off security alarms, police officials said.

Police and federal officers launched a manhunt around the complex as the battery-operated machine had a flying range of around 150 metres (yards), the officials said.

"The helicopter came in from the direction of the Talkatora Stadium and it was spotted by a sentry who sounded the alarm after it landed inside," a parliament security official told AFP.

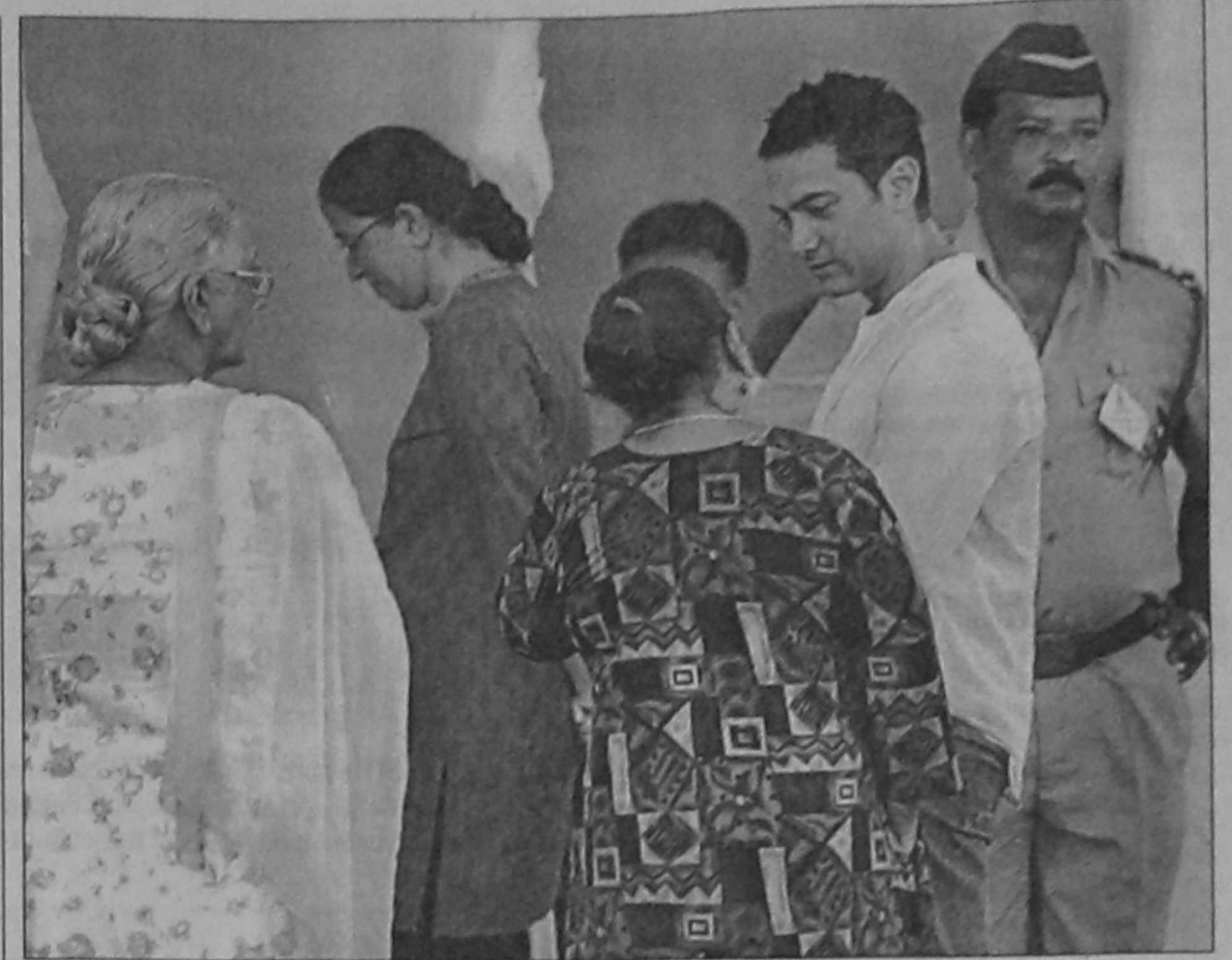


PHOTO: AFP

Indian Bollywood actor Aamir Khan (2R) interacts with other voters standing in a queue to cast their vote at a polling booth in Mumbai yesterday. Millions of voters joined the third round of India's month-long elections Thursday, with security ramped up as the staggered polls moved to the volatile Kashmir Valley and the financial capital Mumbai.

## Bollywood stars vote in Indian elections

AFP, Mumbai

Bollywood stars yesterday turned out in force to vote in India's general election, urging people to exercise their democratic right and make their voices heard.

Among the big names to cast their ballots at a school in the upscale Bandra West area of north Mumbai were leading actor-director Aamir Khan, his producer wife Kiran Rao and screen hunk John Abraham and a host of other film figures.

"Being an Indian it is our

duty to come out and vote," said Khan, whose blockbuster film "Ghajini" recently became the highest grossing Hindi-language film of all time.

"We should elect good people... who don't divide the country. We should elect clean and honest people in politics."

Abraham echoed Khan, calling for stable government and reminding voters in the world's biggest democracy that they can make a difference, as Mumbai went to the polls in the third phase of

India's five-stage, month-long election.

"After 26/11 (the November 26 Islamist militant attacks on Mumbai) you saw the power of democracy. People were very angry against the government. The chief minister (of Maharashtra state) had to resign," he told reporters.

"That's the power of democracy," the "Dostana" (Friendship) star added, urging as many young people as possible to vote.



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistani youth pass a burning truck on a street in Karachi on Wednesday. Supporters of two ethnic groups torched 10 vehicles in protest against killings in the southern port city.

## Pakistan appeals for unity in fight against Taliban

AFP, Peshawar/Rawalpindi

Pakistan's leader has called on the nation to unite behind the armed forces as they pressed a new offensive against Taliban militants yesterday north of the capital Islamabad.

President Asif Ali Zardari said the nation was facing a "critical hour" in its fight against Islamic militants linked to al-Qaeda, and that the military offensive in the scenic Swat region was vital to protect the constitution.

"Time has come for the entire nation to give pause to their political differences and rise to the occasion and give full support to our security forces," Zardari said in a statement late Wednesday.

"This is the only way to demonstrate our will, to keep

Pakistan as a moderate, modern and democratic state where the rights of all citizens are protected," he said.

Pakistani troops have this week launched a series of operations against Taliban fighters who had taken control of Lower Dir and Buner districts, only around 100 kilometres outside Islamabad.

A spokesman for Pakistan's military said Thursday that 14 militants had been killed over the last 24 hours in operations against Islamist insurgents in the country's northwest.

"As regards the ongoing operation in Buner and Dir, it's 48 hours since the operation started. During the last 24 hours, 14 militants have been killed," army spokesman Major General Athar Abbas told a news conference.

## Lanka, LTTE could face war crimes charges

Says NY Times

INDO ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, New York

Sri Lanka's government and the Tamil Tigers could face prosecution for committing war crimes in their long-running war that appears to be ending, the New York Times said Thursday.

"Sri Lanka's leaders and the rebels must be warned that they could face prosecution for war crimes," the daily said in an editorial titled "Sri Lanka's Dirty War."

"Once this fighting ends, the government and the Tamils must be persuaded to pursue a serious political settlement, or this long and brutal war would certainly reignite," it said.

Human rights groups have accused both the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and Colombo of gross rights abuses.

The Times also urged the international community

including India to press Colombo to allow civilians to leave the conflict zone and give NGOs access to refugee camps.

"While there are no good guys in this fight, the government must do all that it can to avoid harming civilians in a war zone. You know officials have something to hide when they bar aid groups and journalists from the war zone, as Sri Lanka has done since last year," it said.

Pointing out that Sri Lanka has callously ignored calls for a cease-fire, the editorial noted that the government this week said the army would stop using heavy weapons against the rebels. But watchdog groups say they have reports that fierce shelling still continues.



PHOTO: AFP

Local residents sit in a truck as they flee from the Pakistan's troubled Buner district yesterday, where troops launched a ground and air operation against Taliban.

## Kashmir voters stay home

AFP, Anantnag

A separatist boycott stifled voter turnout yesterday in Kashmir as India's multi-stage general election moved into districts known for their staunch opposition to New Delhi's rule.

As of 3:00pm (0930 GMT)

only 21 percent of the 1.1 million eligible voters in Kashmir's Anantnag-Pulwama constituency -- a militant hotbed -- had cast their votes, with just two hours of polling remaining.

If the final turnout remains around the same level, it will be a boost for the separatist move-

ment whose similar boycott of state polls in December had been ignored by the majority of the electorate.

Thursday's voting was held under strict security with thousands of troops deployed in the constituency's 1,500 polling stations -- all of which were rated "hyper-sensitive."

### Southeast Bank Limited

Head Office: 52-53, Dilkusha C/A

Dhaka-1000

#### NOTICE

This is for kind information of valued shareholders that Dividend Warrants covering 15% Cash Dividend-2008 of all shareholders of the Bank are ready for delivery. The Shareholders may collect their respective Cash Dividend Warrants from the Share Division of the Bank at Head Office as per under noted time schedule.

Date	BOID Nos.
03.05.2009	120147.....to 120158.....
04.05.2009	120159.....to 120177.....
05.05.2009	120178.....to 120198.....
06.05.2009	120199.....to 120220.....
07.05.2009	120221.....to 120259.....
10.05.2009	120260.....to 120309.....
11.05.2009	120310.....to 120355.....
12.05.2009	120356...to 160419 & all Folio

The Shareholders may personally collect their Dividend Warrants as per above schedule or send their authorized representative for collecting the same during office hours. The undelivered Dividend Warrants will be despatched through registered mail in the recorded addresses of the Shareholders at their risk and responsibility.

April 30, 2009

Muhammad Shahjahan  
SEVP & Company Secretary



## এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড

২৬৫-২৬৭, টঙ্গী শিল্প এলাকা, গাজীপুর  
(বাংলাদেশ ইম্পাত ও প্রকৌশল কর্পোরেশনধীন)

### টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিঃ টঙ্গী শিল্প এলাকা, গাজীপুর কর্তৃক অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন প্রকৌশলকরক / মুদ্রণকারী / সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে চাবির রিং, মিতক তৈরীর মালামাল, মুদ্রণ ও স্টেশনারী দ্রব্যাদি সরবরাহের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে :

টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-	সামগ্রীর বিবরণ	জামানতের টাকা (ক্রেতারযোগ্য)	খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	টেন্ডার সিডিউলের মূল্য
এবিএল/ক্রম/২৩০ তারিখ-২৫-০৪-২০০৯ খ্রি:	মিতকের চেসিস এন্ড ক্যাবটাকার ও অন্যান্য মালামাল।	প্রস্তাবিত মূল্যের ১% তবে ২০০০/- টাকার কম নহে।	১৭-০৫-২০০৯ খ্রিঃ তারিখ সকাল ১১.৩০ মিনিটে বন্ধ এবং একই দিন দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকায় খোলা হইবে।	প্রতিসেট ২০০/= টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
এবিএল/ক্রম/২৩১ তারিখ-২৫-০৪-২০০৯ খ্রি:	চাবির রিং- ৪৫,০০০টি	প্রস্তাবিত মূল্যের ১% তবে ২০০০/- টাকার কম নহে।	২০-০৫-২০০৯ খ্রিঃ তারিখ সকাল ১১.৩০ মিনিটে বন্ধ এবং একই দিন দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকায় খোলা হইবে।	প্রতিসেট ২০০/= টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
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- ১। অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এর হিসাব বিভাগের কাশা শাখা এবং বাংলাদেশ ইম্পাত ও প্রকৌশল কর্পোরেশন, "বিএসইসি ভবন", ১০২, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫ হিসাব বিভাগের কাশা শাখা হইতে নগদ মূল্যে টেন্ডার সিডিউল ক্রয় করা যাইবে।
- ২। টেন্ডার খোলার দিন কোন সিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হইবে না।
- ৩। এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিঃ এর ক্রয় বিভাগে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাস্তব দরপত্র ফেলা যাইবে এবং দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) ক্রয় বিভাগে উপরে উল্লেখিত সময়ে টেন্ডার খোলা হইবে।
- ৪। অনিবার্য কারণ বশতঃ টেন্ডার গ্রহণের দিন অফিস বন্ধ থাকিলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে একই সময়ে উভয় অফিসে টেন্ডার গ্রহণ ও খোলা হইবে।
- ৫। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই যে কোন একটি বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।

(এ, কে, এম, ফজলুল হক)  
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Oxfam is committed to ensuring diversity and gender equity within the organization and welcomes application from women and under represented groups.

Oxfam GB has been working in Bangladesh since the War of Independence (1971) and established our permanent country office in 1972. Since then we have responded to all major emergencies in the country. We are committed to lessen the suffering of the poor and vulnerable communities of the country by promoting an integrated development and disaster risk management programme in response to development and humanitarian needs.

We are looking for 3 dynamic team players for the DIPECHO funded project under Disaster Risk Reduction & Vulnerable Livelihoods Programme:

#### Programme Officer, DIPECHO Project, Disaster Risk Reduction and Vulnerable Livelihoods Programme -2 posts (Fixed Term Contract)

With a sound knowledge and clear understanding on flood preparedness, mitigation, Livelihoods, advocacy and continuously change or practice level, prevention and risk management environment of Bangladesh to support partners to develop their capacity to achieve the project's plans; good analytical skills, good communication and negotiation skills and also good partner management skills to build on our achievements and help to drive our DIPECHO Project forward. You will have considerable working experience on implementing project/programme plans, willingness to work in any emergency situation on multi-hazard approach, budgeting, monitoring, reporting and evaluating projects, knowledge on gender analysis and methods and also the ability to communicate clearly in English and Bangla with the local community, Govt, donors, partners, WASH cluster, DRR platform initiatives and external audiences.

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With sound accounting knowledge and experience in related field to coach/train partners and support partner to develop financial management capacity and achieve the project plans in line with financial standards and procedures, good analytical skills, good communication and negotiation skills and also skill to provide support to core finance functions with a view to constant improvement. You will have considerable working experience on building capacity of partners, a good knowledge on finance functions of an INGO, good level of skills on e-mail, MS Word and advanced MS Excel and database, budgeting, monitoring and evaluating projects, knowledge on gender analysis and methods and also the ability to communicate clearly in English and Bangla with the local community, donors, partners and external audiences.

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If you feel you can make a difference, please collect the Oxfam application form and job profile from Oxfam GB, House #4, Road #3, Block #1, Banani, Dhaka -1213, Bangladesh. You may also write to us at the above address or to [oxfamgb@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:oxfamgb@oxfam.org.uk). The closing date for applications is 15 May, 2009. Please note only short listed candidates will be contacted due to limited resources.

