

## Kim's youngest son named successor

N Korea prepares for more missile tests

AP, Seoul

North Korea pushed forward with preparations to test-fire more missiles in the wake of last week's nuclear test as leader Kim Jong Il moved to anoint his third son as heir to the world's first communist dynasty, reports and experts said Tuesday.

At least four missiles were spotted being readied at North Korean launch pads: a long-range missile on the west coast near China and three to four medium-range missiles on the east coast. US military officials confirmed the preparations of a Taepodong-2 capable of striking the US, and the Yonhap news agency cited a lawmaker briefed by defence officials for the east coast launch.

North Korea was also strengthening its defences and conducting amphibious assault exercises along its

western shore possible preparations for skirmishes at sea, reports said. South Korea deployed a guided-missile, high-speed boat to the area to stamp out any provocations, the navy said.

As tensions continued to escalate with UN ambassadors discussing a new Security Council resolution in response to the nuclear test the regime reportedly began paving the way for Kim's 26-year-old son, Jong Un, to eventually take over as leader of the nation of 24 million people.

A succession announcement went out after the May 25 underground nuclear test to top Workers' Party, military and government officials, South Korea's Dong-a Ilbo and Hankook Ilbo newspapers said Tuesday, and the North was already hailing the son as "our Commander Kim" in a new song being taught to the people, the Dong-a Ilbo said.



PHOTO: AFP

South Korean conservative activists hold placards during an anti-North Korea rally in Seoul yesterday. North Korea seems to be preparing for test-firing several medium-range missiles from its southeast coast, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported on Tuesday.

## 61 killed in illegal South African gold mine

AFP, Johannesburg

At least 61 miners were killed when fire tore through an abandoned gold shaft in one of South Africa's deadliest mine accidents, highlighting the lethal dangers facing illegal diggers.

Twenty-five bodies were recovered on Tuesday -- adding to 36 already found -- after a fire reportedly broke out in the disused shaft owned by Harmony Gold, the world's fifth largest gold producer, in central Free State province.

"Twenty five bodies have been discovered this morning," police spokesman Sam Makhele told AFP.

Police, mining authorities and unions said they did not

know if more bodies remained underground in the shaft near Welkom in the second major accident this year, after 20 illegal miners died in March at another mine.

Illegal mining in the bowels of South Africa's abandoned pits has long plagued the world's third-largest gold producer, with diggers living sometimes for months underground to smuggle the precious metal.

Harmony chief operating officer in the Free State, Tom Smith said that the 25 bodies found Tuesday were brought to a station 1.4 kilometres underground by fellow illegal miners, where they were discovered by employees pumping water.



PHOTO: AFP

An Indian paramilitary vehicle blocks a road during an undeclared curfew in Srinagar yesterday. Indian authorities deployed thousands of police in Kashmir to prevent more demonstrations over the alleged rape and murder by security forces of two young Muslim women.

## Embattled British PM faces poll drubbing

AFP, London

Prime Minister Gordon Brown faces the threat of an electoral bloodbath this week as Britain votes in European and local elections, amid fresh questions over his future.

Voters mired in recession and angered at a political expenses scandal look set to punish his ruling Labour Party, polls indicate, while there are growing signs Brown will reshuffle his cabinet after Thursday's ballots.

Labour's opinion poll fortunes have been at record lows for months, and there is talk Brown could face a leadership challenge in the wake of the dual election result.

But he seems in no mood to

give up. Asked whether Labour MPs were calling for him to step aside after the polls, Brown said he was focused on cleaning up politics and fighting Britain's recession.

"They're not, because I've got a job to do," he told Sky News television Monday, denying that some Labour MPs were talking of him quitting. "We've got work to do, we have got to clean up the system."

A Sunday Telegraph/ICM poll this week suggested Labour would come third in the European elections with just 17 percent, behind David Cameron's main opposition Conservatives and the third party, centrist Liberal Democrats.

## Attacks on Indians Australian state plans 'hate laws'

AFP, Melbourne

The Australian state at the centre of a furore over attacks on Indian students said Tuesday it would introduce hate laws to combat the problem, which has caused outrage on the sub-continent.

Authorities in Victoria said they would look at changing laws so that judges can take account of prejudice against a particular group of people

when sentencing for a crime.

The move is an attempt to contain the fallout from a series of attacks on Indian students, although the changes would apply to hate crimes prompted by religion, sexual orientation and gender, as well as race.

"It may lead, in certain circumstances, to increased penalties," Victorian state Attorney-General Rob Hulls said.

## Obama vows to get ME talks back on track

AFP, London/Jerusalem

President Barack Obama voiced confidence Tuesday that the United States can help get serious Middle East peace talks back on track, as he prepared for his maiden trip to the region.

In an interview with the BBC before heading to Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Europe, the US leader added that he hoped for progress in direct talks with Iran by the end of this year.

More broadly, he said a keynote speech in Cairo would aim to broach relations between the West and the Muslim world, and to overcome some mutual misapprehensions eight years after the September 11 attacks.

"No one speech is going to solve every problem," he said, but added his trip was "an opportunity for us to get both sides to listen to each other a little bit more and then hopefully learn something."

On Middle East peace talks, he said the United States believes it is "going to be able to get serious negotiations back on track" between Israel and the Palestinians.

"Not only is it in the interest of the Palestinian people to have a state, it's in the interest of the Israeli people to stabilise the situation there," he added.

Obama's remarks come as he prepares to embark late Tuesday on a visit to the Middle East, where he is scheduled on Thursday to make a high-profile speech at a university in the Egyptian capital Cairo.

"What we want to do is open a dialogue," said Obama.

While not apologising for US policy under his predecessor George W. Bush, he said that in the wake of 9/11, Washington had sometimes not been "careful to distinguish our very real need to hunt down extremists ... and broader policy differences or cultural differences that exist."

"There are misapprehensions on the part of the West about the Muslim world, and obviously there's some big misapprehensions about the Muslim world when it comes to those of us in the West," he added.

On Iran, the US president told the BBC that he hopes for progress in contacts with the Islamic republic this year.

"What I have said is that it is in the

world's interests for Iran to set aside ambitions for a nuclear weapon," he said, adding that this could best be achieved "through tough direct diplomacy".

"Although I don't want to put artificial timetables on that process, we do want to make sure that, by the end of this year, we've actually seen a serious process move forward," he said.

In other comments Obama said the United States must lead by example -- including closing the Guantanamo Bay detention camp on Cuba, which has fuelled much anger in the Muslim world.

"I think the thing that we can do, most importantly, is serve as a good role model. And that's why, for example, ... closing Guantanamo, from my perspective, as difficult as it is, is important," he said.

But he also warned that Washington could not force other countries to accept its values.

"The danger I think is when the United States or any country thinks that we can simply impose these values on another country with a different history and a different culture," he told the broadcaster.

## China clamps down ahead of Tiananmen anniversary

AP, Beijing

Chinese authorities have forced a former government adviser from Beijing and detained a veteran dissident in a clamp-down ahead of the 20th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests, reports said Tuesday.

Exiled former student leader Chai Ling, meanwhile, issued a rare public statement before Thursday's anniversary of the bloody crackdown, calling for the release of political prisoners, an independent investigation into the events and permission for former student leaders to return home.

"The current generation of leaders who bear no responsibility should have the courage to overturn the verdicts" on the protests, said Chai, in a statement distributed by the Hong Kong-based Information Centre for Human Rights and Democracy.

China has never allowed an independent investigation into the military's crushing of the protests, in which possibly thousands of students, activists and ordinary citizens were killed. The subject remains taboo on the mainland, with officials routinely countering questions about Tiananmen with remarks on how much China has developed and prospered in the years since.



PHOTO: AFP

A Palestinian man tries to put out a fire set by Jewish settlers to Palestinian fields outside the village of Hawara and the Yizhar settlement in the north of the occupied West Bank on Monday.

## Jewish settlers go on rampage in West Bank

AFP, Nablus

Jewish settlers rampaged in the West Bank on Monday, wounding four Palestinians, as they vented fury that Israel may answer US calls and dismantle outposts in the territory, officials said.

Jewish extremists blocked roads, hurled rocks at drivers, burned fields, cut down olive trees and opened fire towards Palestinians who tried to chase the trespassers from their fields in the northern West Bank, witnesses said.

West of the city of Nablus, an area home to some of the most hardcore settlers in the occupied territory, dozens of masked extremists blocked a road in the early hours and hurled rocks at Palestinian drivers who stopped their vehicles to move the obstructions, they said.

They attacked when the minibus (carrying 17 Palestinian workers on their way to work in Israel) stopped. The man next to the driver was seriously wounded," said Zakaria Sada, an activist with the Rabbis for Human Rights organisation.

When another driver stopped his vehicle to move the stones in the road, the mob beat him until Israeli troops arrived on the scene, Sada said.

Four people were wounded in the attacks, and one remained in serious condition in hospital with a fractured skull, medics said.

Near the settlement of Yizhar -- one of the most radical in the West Bank -- heavy smoke billowed into the air as settlers set fire to Palestinian fields.

Islamic Development Bank (IDB) is looking to appoint an "IDB Field Representative in Bangladesh"

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Job Purpose:**  
The IDB Field Representative undertakes a coordination role in monitoring the implementation of IDB Group financed projects in Bangladesh.

**Responsibilities:**

- Liaising and communicating with concerned departments in IDB Headquarters as well as their counterparts in executing agencies and ministries on all matters related to implementation and administration of the IDB Group financed projects
- Facilitating the high level coordination between IDB and ministries, executing agencies and other development stakeholders
- Identification, monitoring and follow up of projects financed by IDB
- Reviewing the progress of project implementation and reporting to the IDB regularly
- Disseminating IDB guidelines, procedures, policies and representing IDB in the country

**Minimum Qualifications & Experience:**

- Only candidates with experience in working with multilateral development institutions, local managers of internationally financed projects or government officials who had directly dealt with internationally financed projects can apply to this position
- Related university degree, preferably at postgraduate level
- At least 7 years of professional experience in project administration/implementation
- Understanding of the development needs of the country
- Strong familiarity with the initiatives and development programs in the country
- Sound knowledge of operational policies and procedures of internationally financed projects

**Skills & Competencies:**

- Good written and oral communications skills in English
- Strong presentation and representation skills
- Very good knowledge of Microsoft Office applications

**Nationality:** Bangladesh

**Age:** Not more than 55 years old as of 31 July 2009

All applications should be submitted through IDB Career website: [www.isdbcareers.com](http://www.isdbcareers.com) before 20 June 2009.

## First Guantanamo hearing of Obama era opens

AFP, US Naval Base At Guantanamo Bay

A Guantanamo Bay military court on Monday held the first open hearing of the Obama administration, examining the case of a young Canadian accused of killing a US soldier in Afghanistan.

Judge Patrick Parrish, a US Army colonel, decided to publicly hear arguments in the case of Omar Khadr, who was 15 years old when he allegedly killed a US sergeant with a grenade.

The case highlights the many challenges President Barack Obama faces in changing the military commissions system, part of his vow to shutter the prison at Guantanamo Bay -- a US naval base in south-eastern Cuba where 240 "war on terror" detainees are still held.

## 29 killed in Indian bus plunge

AFP, Bhopal

At least 29 people were killed and seven injured Monday when a bus veered off a bridge and plunged into a dry river bed in northern India, officials said.

"The bodies of 29 passengers have been recovered" from the accident site, senior police official Santosh Kumar Singh told AFP.

Police said the bus was travelling between the desert state of Rajasthan to central Madhya Pradesh state when it plunged off the bridge in Morena, 350km from capital city Bhopal.

It was not immediately known how many people were aboard the bus.

## Join Us

Summit Power Limited (SPL) is the only publicly listed Bangladeshi power generation company with a generation capacity of 215MW. SPL had originally established three power plants at three locations and Summit Uttarancho Power Company Limited and Summit Purbanchol Power Company Limited two 99% owned subsidiaries of SPL have four new power plants at four locations. The principal sponsor of SPL, Summit Industrial and Mercantile Corporation (Pvt.) Ltd. recently acquired 47% shares of Khulna Power Co. Ltd. and is bidding for establishing large combined cycle power plants in near future. SPL and its associated companies expect to expand to 1000MW power generation capacity by 2011.

Summit Power Limited is seeking following dynamic persons to accelerate the growth of the company and maintain & operate its power plants in world class environment.

### Position Summary

This is a Senior Management Position.

Incumbent will have to take Operation and maintenance (O&M) management responsibility and ensure that all the plants of the Company are operational and remain profitable through the implementation of excellent O & M procedures, meeting key performance targets, cost effective budgets (including optimal spare parts management) and effective maintenance schedules in addition to ensuring that the plants are fully compliant to all the agreements and contracts that Company signed with Utilities, Bangladesh Government & Third Parties as well as laws & regulations of the Country

### Job Responsibilities

• Plan, organize and lead the overall O&M activity of the Company to achieve agreed objectives set by the top management.

• Exercise judgment with the responsibility of analyzing relevant O&M needs of the power plants, identifying potential and imminent problems and devising action plans accordingly

• Follow up with team members, ensuring all the tasks and operations of the O&M activity of the Company are running efficiently and error-free

• Facilitate and ensure responsive, accurate, proactive and collaborative communications with senior management and all other employees of the Company

### Requirements & Skills

Minimum B.Sc Engineering (Mechanical or Electrical), or Class-I, Motor (Marine) preferably with qualifications in business administration studies

Excellent interpersonal quality, leadership ability including good written communication, speaking & presentation (both in English and Bangla) skills

Commercial awareness and a positive & professional attitude to achieve desired target

At least 20 years of experience, with 5 years in a senior management position in any Utility or company engaged in power related business.

**Pay:** Monthly remuneration will be commensurate with qualification and experience in the pay structure of the Company. Candidates may mention their minimum expectation.

**Other benefits:** Contributory provident fund, gratuity, festival bonus & leave entitlement as per Company service rules.

**Application:** Intending candidates who fulfill the above mentioned criteria are requested to apply to the following address: Assistant Manager (Admin.), Summit Power Limited, Summit Centre (9th floor), 18, Karwan Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215 on or before 20th of June, 2009. (E-mail: [shahed@summitpower.org](mailto:shahed@summitpower.org)). Applicants are encouraged to apply through E-mail. General Managers of Summit Power Limited are eligible to apply as departmental candidates.