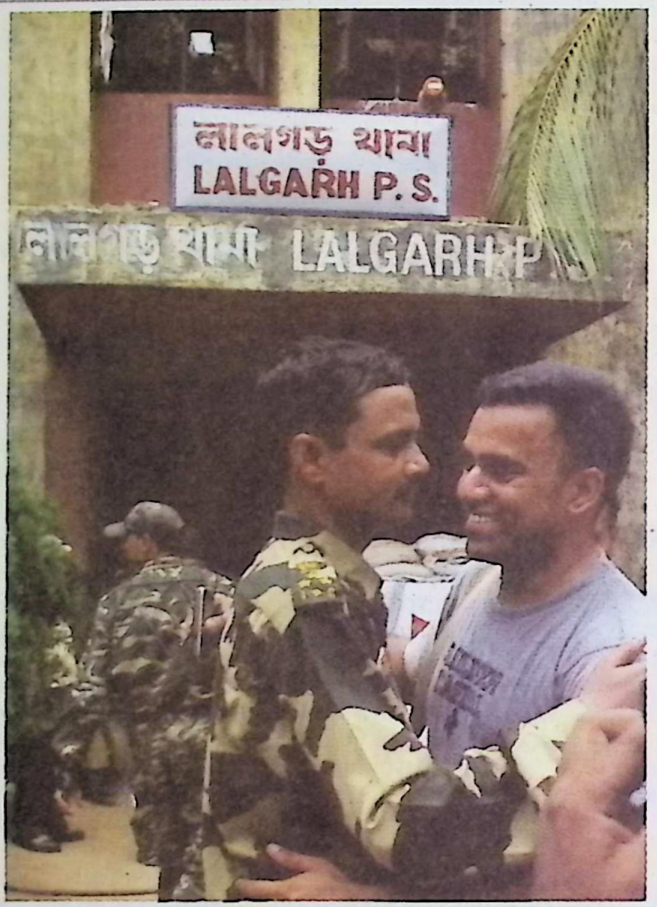


Senior Indian police officer Praveen Kumar (L) greets a paramilitary soldier as they enter the Lalgarh police station in Midnapore district, some 200 km west of Kolkata. India deployed troops to West Bengal to tackle an upsurge in Maoist violence after days of clashes between tribal villagers and police. Thousands of villagers in Lalgarh have ransacked and torched police camps and houses belonging to Marxist leaders.



Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez delivering a speech during his broadcast program "Alo Presidente" in which he asked for applauses for US President Barack Obama for his "firm treatment about Israel and his moderation on Iran's case" in Caracas. Chavez urged Barack Obama to "come on to the socialism" during his new weekly appointment "Alo Presidente Teorico" every Thursday.



A reproduction of a painting by Josiah Waiguru Gitau "Taju" provided by South African company 2010 Fine Art as part of the 2010 fine art exibition on Football and the FIFA 2010 World Cup to be hosted in South Africa. From stark photographs of African children chasing a homemade soccer ball to sleek bronze footballers sculpted in mid-kick -- the buzz around the 2010 World Cup has also made its way into art.

Photography, fantasy art, abstract works and sculpture will be shown -- at various points around the globe -- in a project to boost excitement over the world's biggest sporting event, held for the first time in Africa. 2010 Fine Art has acquired the global license to produce art under the international football federation FIFA brand to celebrate the month-long tournament that opens next June.



US Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. Sotomayor, who would become the first woman of Hispanic origin to sit on the high court if confirmed by the Senate, resigned her membership from the Belizean Grove, an elite all-women's club, saying she was convinced the club does not practice "invidious discrimination."

AFP Photos