Israeli defense minister, US envoy meet in New York

AFP, New York

US envoy George Mitchell held low-key talks here yesterday with Israeli Defense Department said it was not Minister Ehud Barak as Washington seeks to breathe compromise with Israel on a new life into the ailing Middle settlement freeze, amid East peace talks.

1205 GMT at the Hotel Intercontinental in Manhattan, and kicked off with a photo call for news all the parties to try and come photographers.

answer any questions, except when Barak was asked if he was optimistic about the talks Kelly. as he was smiling.

cost too much," Barak shot back. "We are naturally positive, every day."

Ties between Israel and its going to prejudge what hapmajor ally the United States have strained in recent weeks over the US administration's reported news of a possible

must halt settlement building in the West Bank.

On Monday the State ruling out the possibility of a reports that Israel might be The meeting began around ready to agree to stall settlement construction for three months.

"We've been working with up with... an environment But the two men refused to conducive to the resumption of negotiations," said State Department spokesman Ian

"And we look forward to "It means a smile doesn't sitting down and talking about what we can do to move this process forward," he added.

> pens tomorrow (Tuesday)." The New York Times first

But he added:"I'm not

insistence that the Jewish state settlement freeze on Monday, citing Israeli officials who spoke on condition of ano-

nymity. The newspaper said the freeze could last three to six months and would be presented as a proposal by Barak during his talks Tuesday with Mitchell.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who accepted the idea of a Palestinian state for the first time during a mid-June address, has refused to stop settlement construction.

And according to the Israeli daily Yediot Aharonot, the three-month freeze envisioned by Netanyahu would not include the thousands of buildings already under construction in many settlements, nor new building in East Jerusalem.l

Bangladesh performs

FROM PAGE 1

1.10 in 2008 from minus 1.08 in 2007. As regards political stability and absence of violence and terrorism, Bangladesh improved to minus 1.54 in 2008 from minus 1.40 in 2007 and in case of voice and accountability, its status improved slightly -minus 0.61 in 2008 from minus 0.59 in 2007.

In the worsening side, regulatory quality stood at minus 0.82 in 2008 compared to minus 0.86 in 2007, the rule of law at minus 0.70 in 2008 against minus 0.77 in 2007, and government effectiveness stood at minus 0.77 in 2008 compared to minis 0.80 in sectors." 2007, according to the WGI.

Zaid Bakht said the real picture would emerge from the situation in 2009 as the caretaker government was installed for a short period.

He mentioned that in 2008 the caretaker government focused its attention to the national election. As a result, it could not give much attention to administration. Implementation of the annual development programme (ADP) was also the lowest during the period.

As a result, Bangladesh's performance in government effectiveness showed poorly

in the WB indicator. said earning confidence of all parties, the caretaker government succeeded in bringing

GD-3239

During its tenure, crime level was low, political and other types of agitation were rare, resulting in better political stability and fall in violence.

Zaid also said due to the anti-corruption drive during the caretaker government's rule, businesses could not function properly for fear arrests on graft charges.

Contacted, WB senior economist at its Dhaka office Zahid Hussain said good governance is a key priority for the bank. "We are supporting the government's efforts in a number of areas such as public financial management, and power, health and education

The WGI is prepared as part corruption." Zahid said. of a larger effort to study the consequences of governance for development, and its usefulness should be looked at in this broader context, he

Resource allocation by the WB group is based on a country's performance and need, and not on these indicators, Zahid noted.

The indicators reflect information gathered from a variety of sources, the WB senior economist said. "They measure a country's percentile rank with respect to each indicator. Percentile rank indicates the percentage of The BIDS research director countries worldwide that rate below the selected country."

Bangladesh's rank on voice in G8 countries is not always them in the electoral fray. and accountability in 2008 is exemplary."

30.8, meaning 30.8 percent of countries rank below Bangladesh on this indicator. Comparisons over time and across countries are not really meaningful for many of the indicators because of the large margin of error. Long-term comparisons of percentile ranking are more meaningful than looking at short- term

changes, he added. "We hope this report will contribute to a constructive debate on improving governance across the board -- voice and accountability, political stability, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law, and control of

The WGI covers 212 countries and territories, drawing together hundreds of variables from 35 different data sources to capture the views of tens of thousand of survey respondents worldwide, as well as thousands of experts in the private and public sectors, and NGOs.

According to a WB press release, launching the WGI, its co-author and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution Daniel Kaufmann said, "We should not presume that rich and powerful countries have the very best levels of governance and corruption control; the financial crisis reminds us Explaining this, he said that the quality of governance

		গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
		চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর
		১১২, সার্কিট হাউজ রোড, ঢাকা
		পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞান্ত (দ্রব্য)
١.	মন্ত্রণালয়/ বিভাগ	: তথা মন্ত্রণালয়
٧.	अरक्ति	: চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর
٥.	সংগ্রাহক সন্তার নাম	: মহাপরিচালক
8.	সংগ্রাহক সন্তার জেলা	: ঢাকা
Œ.	দরপত্র আহ্বানের বিষয়	: মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীর প্রতিকৃতি মুদ্রণ (৪ রঙ)
b.	দরপত্র নং	: প্রকাশনা - ২/২০০৪-২০০৫/
9.	তারিখ	: ৩০/০৬/২০০৯
মূল ত		
b.	সংগ্ৰহ পদ্ধতি	: উনুক্ত দরপত্রের মাধ্যমে।
	উৎস :	
	বাজেট ও টাকার উৎস	: রাজস্ব খাত (জিওবি)
	ত তথ্য:	
-	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের সংখ্যা	: 5 fb
33.	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের নাম	: মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীর প্রতিকৃতি মুদ্রণ (৪ রঙ)
75.	দরপত্র প্রচারের তারিখ	: 00/09/2008
\$8.	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তরিখ	: ১৯/০৭/২০০৯ তারিখ, অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
	(এসর্টিড)	
50.	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	: ২০/০৭/২০০৯ তারিখ, বেলা ১১.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত (দরপত্র হার
		হাতে/ সাধারণ ভাক্যোগে/কুরিয়ার ভাক্যোগে দাখিল করা যাবে)
36.	দরপত্র বাব্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ ২০/০৭/২০০৯ তারিখ, বেলা ১১.০৫ ঘটিকায়।
29.	দরপত্র প্রান্তির স্থান	: হিসাব শাখা, চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা
Jb.	দরপত্র গ্রহণের দপ্তর	: উপ-পরিচালক (প্রশাসন), চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর, প্রশাসনিক ভব
		কক্ষ নং - ১৯
29.	দরপত্র বাব্র খোলার স্থান	: উপ-পরিচালক (প্রশাসন), চলচ্চিত্র ও প্রকাশনা অধিদপ্তর, প্রশাসনিক ভব কক্ষ নং - ১৯
20.	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	দরপত্র প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বিজি প্রেসের তালিকাভুক্ত প্রথম শ্রেনী অফসেট মুদ্রণালয় হতে হবে। দরপত্র প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের ২টি ব কালার ডাবল ডিমাই অফসেট মেশিন, গ্রাফিক্স ডিজাইন করার উপযোগী ২ কম্পিউটার, লেজার প্রিন্টার ও ইনক্জেক্ট প্রিন্টার, ১টি ডাবল ডিমাই কার্ মেশিন থাকতে হবে।
25.	কাজের বিবরণ	
গ্রুলপ নং	কাজের বিবরণ	দরপত্র এসটিডি'র মূল্য টেন্ডার সিকিউরিটি কাজ সমাপ্তির সময় (ফেরতযোগ্য নয়)
31	মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীর প্রতিকৃতি মুদ্রণ (৪ রঙে)	৪০০,০০ টাকা ১৫,০০০,০০ টাকা মুদ্রণাদেশ দেয়ার ৭ দিং
35		লন দরপত্রগ্রহণ অথবা ব্যতিল করার ক্ষমতা সম্বাহকারী সম্ভা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
		(ज्ञाकमाना जाकति)

Qaeda warns France of revenge for burka stance

AFP, Dubai

Al-Qaeda's North Africa wing threatened on Tuesday to take revenge on France for its opposition to the burka, calling on Muslims to retaliate against the country, the US monitoring service SITE Intelligence reported.

President Nicolas Sarkozy had said earlier this month that the burka, which covers the whole face, was not welcome in the strictly secular country.

"Yesterday was the hijab (the Islamic headscarf long banned in French schools) and today, it is the niqab (the full veil)," the leader of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb Abu Musab Abdul Wadud was quoted as saying.

"We will take revenge for the honour of our daughters and sisters against France and against its interests by every means at our disposal."

The group also called on Muslims to retaliate for what it called French "hostility" against the community and its attempt to obstruct Islam's practice on its territory.

"For us, the mujahedeen ... we will not remain silent to such provocations and injustices," Abdul Wadud said without elaborating, according to SITE.

"We call upon all Muslims to confront this hostility with greater hostility, and to counter France's efforts to divide male and female believers from their faith with a greater effort ... (by) adherence to the teachings of their Islamic sharia.'

He said Muslims in France, who are estimated at around five million, are "increasingly concerned about the practices of French politicians and leaders and their harassment"

On June 22, Sarkozy said the burka was not a symbol of religious faith but a sign of women's "subservience," adding that the head-to-toe veil was "not welcome" in staunchly secular France.

FROM PAGE 16

their cars at the parking lot of Sadharan Bima

Corporation. "But DCC is charging less for street parking encouraging people to park their cars on the street rather than the multi-storey parking facility meant to be used for parking," he said, adding that this will not help ease the traffic jam in the area.

General manager of Sadharan Bima Corporation ARM Khalequzzaman said the parking space at the Sadharan Bima was constructed as per a decision of the BNP government during its tenure in 2006.

"We could have earned three times more if we had constructed offices in place of the parking space but we did it for the sake of easing the traffic gridlock in the area. We are not getting proper response from vehisupport from the law enforcers," he said.

He said the recent decision of DCC has further reduced around 20 percent vehicles at our parking space, which are now being parked on the road.

"We have issued a letter requesting DCC to change the decision as this kind of parking will encourage people to park their cars on the road," he said.

"We earn Tk 2.25 lakh every month which can go up to Tk 9 lakh if the parking space is filled to its full capacity," he added.

"We also sent a letter to IGP two months back and after that traffic police conducted a drive there which helped us to get around 100 more cars," he continued.

Riday Hossain, an employee of Nawal, said they had been collecting toll since June 15.

Joint Commissioner of traffic Manzur Kader Khan

said parking on the road causes serious traffic congestion in the area.

Jasim, a driver of a private car who parked his car on the road just in front of the parking lot, said as his master is not willing to keep his car at the parking space at Sadharan Bima he parks it on the road everyday.

Another driver of a private car Shafiq who also parks on the road from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm everyday said he has nothing to do, as it is the decision of his master to park on the road.

Chief Town Planner of DCC Md Sirajul Islam said they suspended parking on the street after the inauguration of Sadharan Bima Corporation parking

As a huge portion of the parking lot remains empty and cars are parked on the street in front of the specicle owners due to lack of fied parking space of Sadharan Bima they allowed parking on the streets, he said.

Siraj said they had assigned a firm to bring the vehicles under a systematic parking and improve the worsening traffic congestion in the area.

Parking on the street will be stopped after the completion of two underconstruction parking lots --City Centre and another one at Dilkusha just beside the Sadharan Bima Parking facility, he said.

"We have allowed parking at those places where it will not hamper the traffic movement," he said.

Siraj said they had sent a letter to DMP asking suggestion of parking on the streets before giving the permission but they did not get any reply.

"We are open to any suggestion to ease traffic chaos in the area in future,' he added.

Parking on streets US court delays decision on death row inmate

AFP, Washington

The US Supreme Court has quietly put off deciding whether it will take up the case of black death row inmate Troy Davis who for 20 years has insisted he did not kill a white policeman, a source close to Davis said yes-

"The US Supreme Court called Troy's lawyer -- there will be no decision (which also means no execution date) until their court reconvenes in September," Sara Totonchi, head of Georgians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, which supports Davis, said in an email sent to AFP.

Davis's lawyer was not

available for comment. The justices delayed a decision in Davis's case without explanation on Monday, the last day of the Supreme Court's term before a long summer recess.

Davis has been in jail for 18 years for the murder in 1989 of white police officer Mark Allen MacPhail.

Now 41, Davis has repeatedly said he did not kill MacPhail, and seven out of nine witnesses who gave evidence at his trial in 1991 have recanted or changed their testimony.

No murder weapon was ever found, no DNA evidence or fingerprints tie him to the crime, which other witnesses have since said was committed by another man -- a state's witness who testified against Davis. Davis has won several 11th-

hour stays of execution since July 2007, when he was originally sentenced to die for murdering MacPhail.

One of the stays was granted by the Supreme Court in September last year, less than two hours before Davis was due to be put to death.

Around two weeks later, the high court refused to consider the constitutionality of executing a person when there is new evidence to show he was not guilty of the crime he stands accused of, and referred Davis's

case back to the lower courts.

In April, a court in Georgia denied Davis a retrial but granted him another stay of execution to allow lawyers to take his case back to the Supreme Court.

With its racial overtones and Davis's continued claims of innocence, the case has triggered an international outcry, including from the European Union, whose 27 member states oppose any use of capital punishment, Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu of South Africa, and Pope Benedict XVI.

Scientists bid adieu to plucky solar probe

AFP, Washington

US and European scientists were yesterday bidding farewell to the tenacious solar probe Ulysses which has been recording data around the sun for more than 18 years, four times longer than planned.

"Ulysses has taught us more than we ever expected about the sun and the way it interacts with the space surrounding it," said Richard Marsden, Ulysses project manager with the European Space Agency (ESA).

ESA and the US space agency were planning to send their final radio communication to the lonely Ulysses at 1535 GMT, and then pull the plug on the probe as it floats further and further away from

Since its launch into space in October 1990, Ulysses, named after the king of Ithaca in Greek mythology, has scanned the far reaches of the sun on a journey which has taken it some nine billion kilometers (5.5 billion miles).

One of its discoveries was that the magnetic fields of the sun spread their influence across the whole solar system, something that had previously not been known.

GD-3241

She finally

FROM PAGE 16 a knockout stench of burning kerosene around me. I realised my body was on fire,' Momtaj said.

Her husband's family had poured kerosene on her and sether on fire.

Shamsul and his family stood by and watched as Momtaj screamed for mercy. Neighbours rushed to her help. They doused the fire and tried homemade remedies to sooth her burns.

Her parents, who live in another upazila, were informed and they rushed her to the nearby Jessore Sadar Hospital where she underwent preliminary treatment. She had suffered severe burns to 37 percent of her body. She was later shifted to the DMCH Burn Unit on June 18, when her condition deteriorated.

This week Momtaj is no longer around to complain about the brutality that was her life.

Momtaj's mother, Shahnaz, told The Daily Star that after Momtaj underwent a bypass surgery last year, doctors told her not to carry out any work that involved lifting of heavy objects. She has also been weak since the operation. She was thus not able to work around the house as much as she used to before.

Shamsul then demanded Tk one lakh from her father, which he described as 'compensation' for Momtaj's illness.

paid the money.

oxen as dowry for the wedding," Shahnaz said.

husband's beatings. "But what could we do? We

Hossain has filed a case against Shamsul Biswas, his older brother Nurul Biswas, sister Anowara begum and his brother-in-law Abdul Hamid. Not unusually, Shamsul has been absconding along

with his family members since the incident. No one has been arrested so far, officer-in-charge Abdul Kader of Kotwali Thana,

বাংলাদেশ কম্পিউটার কাউন্সিল

"৬৪টি জেলায় ১২৮টি শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানে কম্পিউটার প্রশিক্ষণ কর্মসূচী বাল্তবায়ন" প্রকল্প বিসিসি ভবন, প্লট ই-১৪/এক্স, আগারগাও, শের-ই-বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭

		Invitation for Tenders (Multiple Lot)	
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH			
1	Ministry/Division:	Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology	
2	Agency:	Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC)	
3	Procuring Entity Name:	Implementation of Computer Training Programme in 128 Educational Institutions in 64 Districts	
4	Procuring Entity Code:	Not used at present	
5	Procuring Entity District:	Dhaka '	
6	Invitation For:	Goods	
		COC.	

22 Eligibility of Tenderer:

or Works:

Services:

Brief Description of Goods

Brief Description of Related N/A

Her father Rabiul Islam, a farmer, had already paid Tk 1.5 lakh as a major portion of her bypass operation expenses. Despite that, Shamsul regularly beat up ailing Momtaj because her father had not yet

"We are poor but we still gave Momtaj's husband furniture, gold jewellery and three

She said her daughter returned home several times with severe injuries from her

are too poor to look after her and her two children. So each time, we had to send her back to that monster," Shahnaz said as she broke down in tears. Momtaj's brother Shimul

Jessore, said yesterday.

উপ-পরিচালক (প্রকাশনা)

त्यानः २०००५४

Implementation of Computer Training Programme in 128 Educational Institutions in 64 Districts	
Not used at present	
Dhaka '	
Goods	
বিসিসি/৬৪ জেলা-৩০/ক্রন্য/২০০৯-১০/২৯৯	
30-June-2009	
NCT , Open Tendering Method(OTM)	
Development Budget (GOB)	
N/A	
2605-7000	
mplementation of Computer Training Programme in 128 Educational Institutions in 64 Districts	
01 of Fy 2009-10	
Supply of Personal Computer, Accessories, Software, Printer, UPS, Voltage Stabilizer, Multimedia Projector, Furniture, Air cooler & Fan	
30-June-2009	
29-July-2009	
30-July-2009 at 3:00 PM	
30-July-2009 at 3:15 PM	
Selling Tender Document:	
CTP128EI Project Office, 3rd Floor, BCC Bhaban, E-14/X, Agargaon, Shere Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207	
Receiving Tender Document:	
CTP128EI Project Office, 3rd Floor, BCC Bhaban, E-14/X, Agargaon, Shere Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207	
Opening Tender Document:	
Conference Room, 3 rd Floor, BCC Bhaban, E-14/X, Agargaon, Shere Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207	
V/A	
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Supply of 512 nos. Personal Computer, 32 sets Accessories & 32 Units Software of Renowned Latest

version Anti-virus with OLP License (Academic Edition), 64 nos. Printer, 256 nos. UPS 1000VA, 64 nos.

Voltage Stabilizer 1000VA, 32 nos. Multimedia Projector, Furniture for 32 LABs, 32 nos. Air Cooler & 128

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS 27 Name of Official Inviting Tender: Md. Sarwar Mostafa Chowdhury 28 Designation of Official Inviting Tender: Project Director, CTP128EI

nos. Fan

25 Price of Tender Document: Tk. 1000.00 (One Thousand) in cash (Non-Refundable)

BCC Bhaban, E-14/X, Agargaon, Shere Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207 Address of Official Inviting Tender Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender Phone: 8144792, Fax: 9124626 31 The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Renowned Manufacturer/Distributor/Agent