

# Abbas admits errors at Fatah congress

AFP, Bethlehem

Fatah kicked off its first congress in 20 years yesterday with Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas urging his party to seek "a new start" and admitting a litany of past errors.

Listing where Fatah went wrong, Abbas mentioned "the impasse in the peace process, some of our attitudes which the public rejects, our weak performance, our losing touch with the pulse of the street, and our lack of discipline."

He said these faults were to blame for the long-dominant party's upset defeat at the polls and its routing from the Gaza Strip.

Fatah, which is at the helm of the Palestinian Authority, exercised undivided power among Palestinians before it was trounced by the rival Islamist Hamas movement in the 2006 legislative election.

Longstanding Hamas-Fatah tensions boiled over in June 2007 when the Islamists seized control of Gaza after a week of deadly street clashes, confining

Abbas's power base to the West Bank.

"We also almost lost what was left of the Palestinian Authority, but we resisted, held firm and took initiatives," Abbas said.

Abbas, who has led Fatah since the 2004 death of iconic Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, urged the 1,900 delegates to use the three-day congress as "a platform for a new start, consolidating our struggle to achieve our main goals: liberation and independence."

The congress in the West Bank city of Bethlehem is due to adopt a new political programme and replace some of the top leaders of Fatah. It is only the sixth conference since the party was founded by Arafat in the late 1950s.

Internal disputes which have significantly weakened the movement, flared up in recent weeks, with Fatah secretary general Faruq Kaddumi publicly accusing Abbas of plotting with Israel to get rid of Arafat.

Over the years, Fatah has moved away from the armed struggle and its pledge to

eradicate Israel but has been losing credibility as peace efforts have failed to produce tangible results.

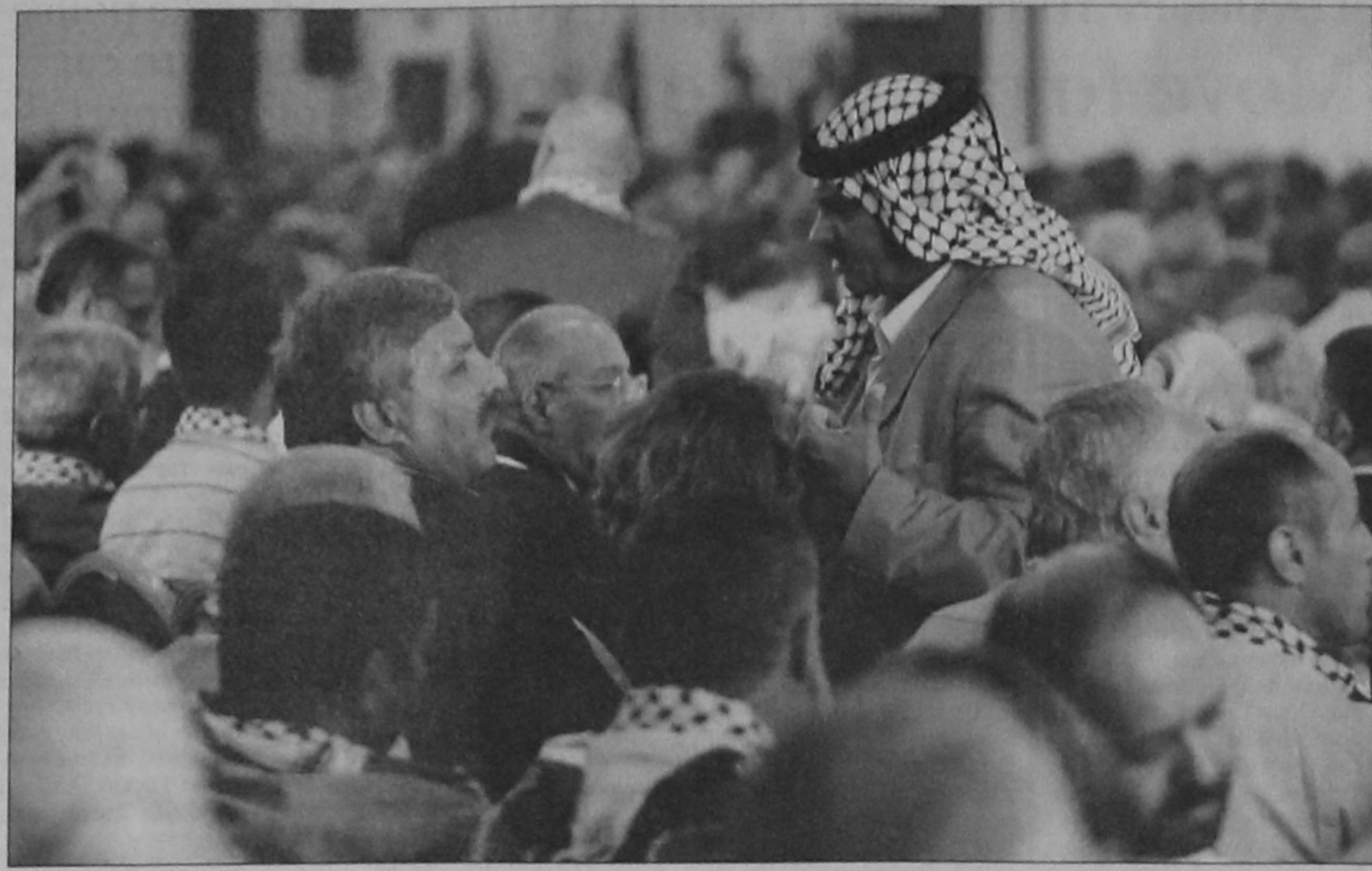
In a document obtained by AFP, Fatah expresses its determination to regain the initiative in peace efforts.

But it also reiterates the Palestinian leadership's refusal to resume peace talks until Israel halts settlement building in occupied east Jerusalem and the West Bank.

The document stresses that under international law, the Palestinians have the right to resist occupation, "including through armed struggle" and reaffirms Fatah's refusal to recognise Israel as a Jewish state.

In his opening address, Abbas stressed that Fatah had worked tirelessly to restore security in the West Bank "at a time when this task appeared impossible."

Many Palestinians blame Fatah for the chaos and corruption that reigned in the Palestinian territories before the 1993 Oslo accords, set out to restore order over the past years.



Fatah members attend their party's first congress in 20 years yesterday in the West Bank city of Bethlehem. The Fatah party led by Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas opened its first congress seeking to repair internal rifts and rebuild its standing among Palestinians.

## US may press for more Iran sanctions

AFP, Washington

The United States warned on Monday it may seek tough new sanctions on Iran if the Islamic republic misses a September deadline for agreeing to hold talks on its suspect nuclear programme.

US lawmakers have been pushing President Barack Obama to squeeze Iran by targeting its heavy reliance on gasoline imports, and The New York Times said that a White House envoy had discussed that option with Israel last week.

"We're not prepared to talk about any specific steps," Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said after holding a video conference with US diplomats around the world

who keep a close eye on Iran.

"But I have said repeatedly that, in the absence of some positive response from the Iranian government, the international community will consult about next steps, and certainly next steps can include certain sanctions," she said.

Because of a lack of domestic refining capacity, oil-rich Iran is dependent on gasoline imports to meet about 40 percent of domestic consumption.

For months, US lawmakers have pushed legislation targeting firms that provide such imports, or otherwise invest in Iran's energy sector, as a way to get Tehran to end its defiance of global pressure over its nuclear programme.

## Clinton in N Korea seeking release of US reporters

AP, Seoul

North Korea welcomed former president Bill Clinton to Pyongyang with flowers and hearty handshakes yesterday as he arrived in the Communist nation on a surprise mission to bring home two jailed American journalists.

Clinton landed in the North Korean capital in an unmarked jet. After greeting North Korea's chief nuclear negotiator and a high-ranking parliamentary official, he bowed and smiled as a young girl presented him with flowers, a red scarf tied around her neck, according to footage aired by television news agency APTN.

The unusually warm

exchange between officials from communist North Korea and the ex-leader of a wartime foe comes amid heightened tensions between Washington and Pyongyang over the regime's nuclear programme. In recent months, North Korea has abandoned a disarmament pact, launched a long-range rocket, conducted a nuclear test and test-fired a barrage of ballistic missiles in defiance of the UN Security Council.

Clinton was making his first trip to North Korea in hopes of securing the release of Laura Ling and Euna Lee, reporters for former vice president Al Gore's California-based Current TV media venture who were arrested along the North Korean-Chinese

border in March.

North Korea accused them of sneaking into the country illegally and engaging in "hostile acts," and the nation's top court sentenced them in June to 12 years of hard labour.

The US and North Korea do not have diplomatic relations, but officials were believed to be working behind the scenes to negotiate their release.

Clinton, whose administration had relatively good relations with Pyongyang; Gore, his vice president; and New Mexico Gov Bill Richardson, who in the 1990s travelled twice to North Korea to secure the freedom of detained Americans, had all been named as possible envoys to bring back Lee and Ling.



Photo released by North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency shows former US president Bill Clinton (C) receiving a bouquet from a North Korean girl upon his arrival at Pyongyang airport. Clinton arrived in North Korea on a surprise mission to free two jailed US journalists.

## US, EU hit out at Israel for Jerusalem evictions

AFP, Washington/Paris

The United States and the European Union hit out Monday at Israel for evicting Palestinian families from east Jerusalem, warning that such moves endangered the Middle East peace process.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton led the international condemnation, labelling the evictions "deeply regrettable" and "provocative" and accusing Israel of failing to live up to its international obligations under existing peace initiatives.

"I have said before that the eviction of families and demolition of homes in east Jerusalem is not in keeping

with Israeli obligations," Hillary told reporters at a Washington press conference alongside Jordanian counterpart Nasser Judeh.

"And I urge the government of Israel and municipal officials to refrain from such provocative actions."

Club-wielding Israeli riot police evicted two Palestinian families from their homes in occupied east Jerusalem on Sunday, after which clashes erupted in the upmarket Arab district of Sheikh Jarrah.

The action followed a decision by Israel's Supreme Court to order the eviction of the 53 Palestinians, including 19 minors.

## Pilot dies after Thai jet skids off runway

AFP, Bangkok

A pilot was killed and seven passengers injured yesterday when a commercial jet skidded off the runway as it landed on Thailand's resort island of Ko Samui and hit an old control tower, the airline said.

Bangkok Airways, which operated the flight and owns Samui airport, said it had temporarily shut the facility following the incident at 2:15 pm.

The 70-seater ATR-72 was flying from the southwestern tourist town Krabi, on the Andaman coast, to Ko Samui in the Gulf of Thailand.

## Zawahiri lashes out at Obama

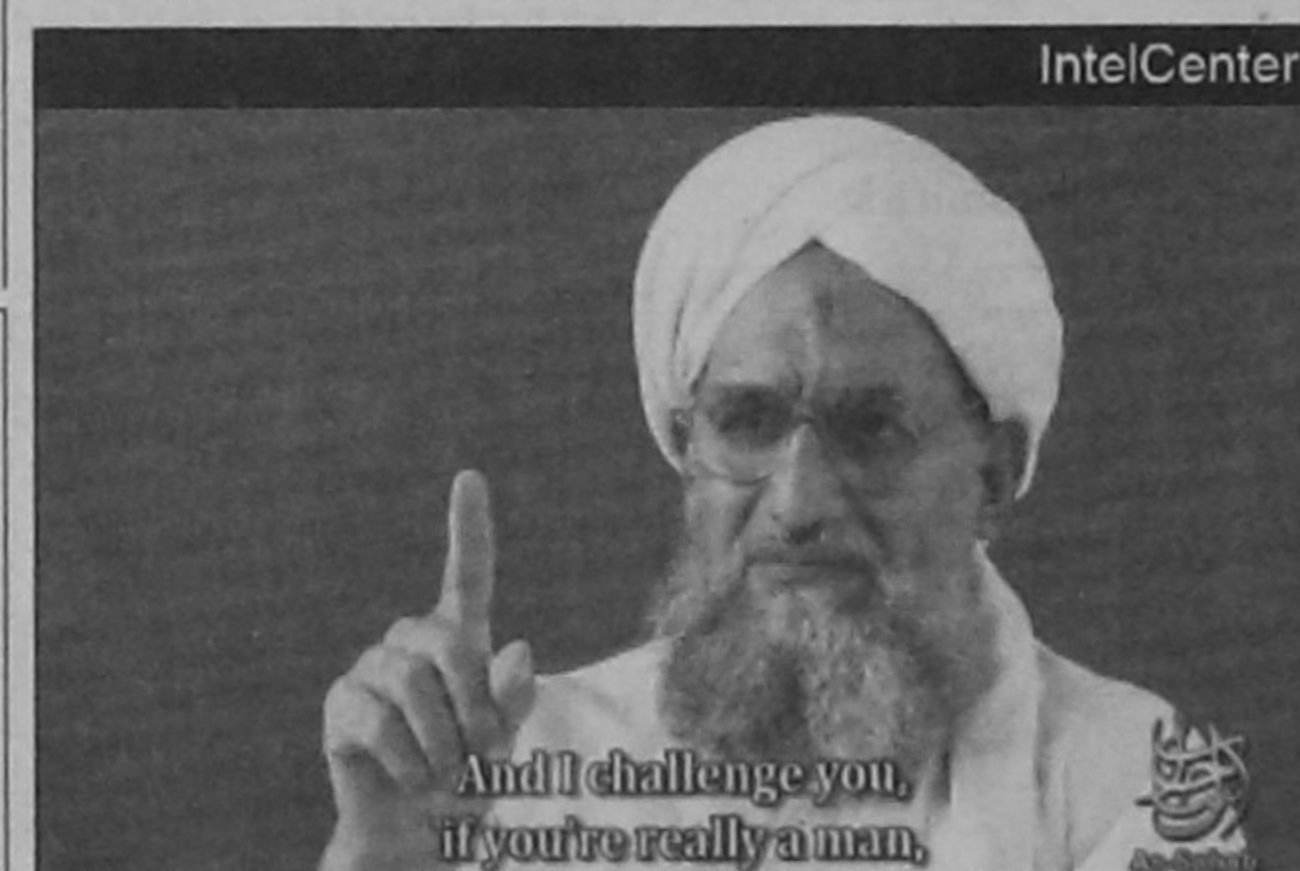
Says Israel is a crime and must be wiped out

AFP, Dubai

Osama bin Laden's right-hand man Ayman al-Zawahiri took aim at US President Barack Obama in a new video, accusing him of continuing to spill the blood of Muslims and saying Israel was a "crime" that must be wiped out, according to a US monitoring group.

He also dismissed Obama's Middle East peace push as a "deception," and accused Obama of seeking to create a "Palestinian state that works as a branch of the Israeli intelligence," according to a transcript of an interview published by the SITE Intelligence Group on Monday.

"Israel is a crime that must be eliminated," declared the Egyptian-born surgeon considered the brains behind al-Qaeda, adding that Muslims have a duty to expel Israel from Palestine.



IntelCentre file photo shows Ayman Al-Zawahiri, the second-in-command of al-Qaeda, in a video message from an undisclosed location.

**ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LIMITED**  
(An enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)  
Ashuganj, B-Baria-3402, Bangladesh.

Memo No. APSCL/Pro-02/2009/1070 date: 03/08/2009

**"Invitation of Proposal For C & F Agent Appointment"**

Sealed proposal are hereby invited from the eligible C & F agent as defined in the Proposal Document for the appointment of C & F agent as per terms and conditions are stated in the Document.

|     |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01. | Ministry/Division                                                       | : Ministry of power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Power Division                                                                                                                                        |
| 02. | Agency                                                                  | : Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd.(APSCL).                                                                                                                                                           |
| 03. | Invitation for                                                          | : Appointment of C & F agent on behalf of APSCL.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 04. | Source of funds                                                         | : APSCL'S Own Fund.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 05. | Proposal publication date                                               | : 03/08/2009                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 06. | Last selling date & time of proposal document                           | : 01/09/2009 during office hour                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 07. | Proposal closing date and time                                          | : 02/09/2009 at 12.00 BST                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 08. | Proposal opening date and time                                          | : 02/09/2009 at 12.15 BST                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 09. | Documents available for selling                                         | : (i) Asstt.Chief Engineer(Generation), Bangladesh Power Development Board, WAPDA Bhavan, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000<br>(ii) Manager (Finance), APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria.                                |
| 10. | Receiving & opening of proposal                                         | : Office of the Convener, Procurement Committee, APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria.                                                                                                                              |
| 11. | Eligibility of C & F agent                                              | : Renowned C & F agent having 10 years experience as C & F agent as specified in the document.                                                                                                          |
| 12. | Price of document                                                       | : Non-refundable Tk.400/- (Four hundred) in the form of Pay order/Bank draft issued from schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd., Ashuganj, B-Baria.               |
| 13. | Bid security (Lum-sum)                                                  | : Tk. 20,000.00 (Twenty thousand taka) in the form of Pay order/Bank draft/ Bank Guarantee issued from schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd., Ashuganj, B-Baria. |
| 14. | Name of official Inviting Proposal                                      | : A M M Sazzadur Rahman                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 15. | Designation of official Inviting Proposal                               | : Convener, Procurement committee                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 16. | Address of official inviting proposal                                   | : Ashuganj Power Station Co. Ltd. Ashuganj, B-Baria, Bangladesh.                                                                                                                                        |
| 17. | Contract details of official inviting proposal                          | : Tel : 0088 08528 74033 Fax : 0088 08528 74044, E-mail: procurement@apscl.com, Website : www.apscl.com                                                                                                 |
| 18. | The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

(A.M.M Sazzadur Rahman)  
Convener  
Procurement Committee  
APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়  
শেরে বাংলা নগর গণপূর্ত বিভাগ-৩, ঢাকা  
ফোনঃ ০২-৯১১০৭৬৬ ফ্যাক্সঃ ৮৮-০২-৯১১০৭৬৬  
তারিখঃ ০৪/০৮/২০০৯

**দরপত্র সংশোধনী বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

এতদ্বারা সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ঢাকার শেরে বাংলা নগরস্থ Construction of National Board of Revenue Building at SB Nagar, Dhaka (Sub-Head: Construction of 12-storied building having 20-storied foundation with Two Basement floors including Internal Sanitary and water supply arrangement, Gas Connection & internal Electrification works etc) during the year-2008-2009 নির্মাণ কাজের জন্য অত্র দপ্তর কর্তৃক আহবানকৃত দরপত্র প্যাকেজ নং- 135/VII(2008-2009) এবং স্মারক নং-B-3/W-182/2332 তারিখ- ১৪/০৬/২০০৯ এর দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ছিল ০৪/০৮/২০০৯ এবং দাখিলের তারিখ ছিল ০৪/০৮/২০০৯ কিন্তু অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ উক্ত দরপত্রটির বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ০৪/০৮/২০০৯ এর পরিবর্তে ০৮/০৮/২০০৯ এবং দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ০৪/০৮/২০০৯ এর পরিবর্তে ০৯/০৮/২০০৯ তারিখ নির্ধারণ করা হইল।

দরপত্রের অন্যান্য সকল শর্তাবলী অপরিবর্তিত থাকিবে। এই দরপত্র সংশোধনী বিজ্ঞপ্তি দরপত্রের একটি অবিচ্ছেদ্য অংশ হিসাবে বিবেচিত হইবে এবং দরপত্রের সঙ্গে ইহা দাখিল করিতে হইবে। অনাথায় দরপত্র বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।

মোঃ আব্দুল হক  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী  
শেরে বাংলা নগর গণপূর্ত বিভাগ-৩  
শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা

C-1300

**বাংলাদেশ তাঁত বোর্ড**  
বিটিএমসি ভবন (৫ম তলা)  
৭-৯, কাওরান বাজার  
ঢাকা-১২১৫।

নং- বাতাবো/পরা/১৫৩(২)/২০০৯/ তারিখঃ ০৩-০৮-২০০৯

**পুনঃ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

বস্ত্র ও পাট মন্ত্রণালয়ধীন বাংলাদেশ তাঁত বোর্ডের "সিলেটের মনিপুরী তাঁত শিল্পের উন্নয়নে প্রশিক্ষণ, নক্সা উন্নয়ন, তাঁতবস্ত্র প্রদর্শনী ও বিক্রয় কেন্দ্র স্থাপন" শীর্ষক প্রকল্পের মেয়াদকালীন সময়ের জন্য অর্থাৎ প্রত্যাভি জুন, ২০১০ পর্যন্ত নিম্নবর্ণিত পদটি পূরণের লক্ষ্যে প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে :

| ক্রমিক নং | পদের নাম          | বেতন-স্কেল/ সর্বস্বল্পো বেতন | পদ সংখ্যা | বয়স            | প্রয়োজনীয় যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ১।        | কম্পিউটার অপারেটর | ৫৮৫০.০০ (গ্রেড-১৩)           | ০১        | অনুর্ধ্ব ৩০ বছর | ক) স্নাতক ডিগ্রী (বিজ্ঞানে স্নাতক ডিগ্রীধারীদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে)।<br>খ) ডাটা এন্ট্রি / কন্ট্রোল অপারেটর হিসেবে দুই বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা শিথিলযোগ্য।<br>প্রার্থীকে কম্পিউটার পরিচালনা সম্পর্কিত এসপিটিউড টেস্ট এ উত্তীর্ণ হতে হবে। |

আবেদনকারীর নাম, পিতা / স্বামীর নাম, মাতার নাম, স্থায়ী ও বর্তমান ঠিকানা, e-mail address ও মোবাইল নাম্বারসহ (যদি থাকে), জন্ম তারিখ, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা, জাতীয়তা, ধর্ম ইত্যাদি উল্লেখপূর্বক আবেদনপত্র সরাসরি অথবা ডাকযোগে ১৪/০৮/২০০৯ তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে পৌছাতে হবে। স্বাক্ষর উপরে প্রার্থীর পদের নাম উল্লেখ করতে হবে।

আবেদন পত্রের সাথে ৩ কপি সাম্প্রতিক কালে তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবি, সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ছায়াছবিপত্র এবং ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ / পৌরসভার চেয়ারম্যান / সিটি কর্পোরেশনের চেয়ারম্যান কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র এবং প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।

মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সন্তানদের ক্ষেত্রে বয়সসীমা ৩২ বছর পর্যন্ত শিথিলযোগ্য।

অসম্পূর্ণ দরপত্র কোন কারণ প্রদর্শন ব্যতিরেকে বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

(এস. মোস্তফা কামাল)  
প্রধান (পরিঃ ও বাস্তবঃ)  
ও  
প্রকল্প পরিচালক