

Tens of thousands protest against Iran president

Khatami assaulted, Mousavi forced to quit rally

AFP, AP, Tehran

Tens of thousands of Iranians chanted "Death to the dictator" yesterday as hard-line President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad gave the keynote address to an annual mass rally of solidarity with the Palestinians.

A group of Iranian hardliners have attacked a reformist former president while he was marching with opposition supporters at an anti-government rally in Tehran.

A reformist Website cites witnesses as saying the attackers pushed ex-President Mohammad Khatami to the ground. It says opposition activists rescued him and quickly repelled the assailants.

The opposition supporters defied a heavy security presence and dire warnings from regime officials about the consequences of any effort to try to hijack the Quds (Jerusalem) Day event to mount the protest, the first against

Ahmadinejad's hotly disputed June re-election in two months.

Chanting slogans in support of the hardliner's main challenger, Mir Hossein Mousavi, the protesters gathered in several places in the city centre for the traditional march to Tehran University where the speeches were delivered, witnesses said.

Hardline supporters of the regime among the more than 100,000 people who joined the rally, mounted counter-demonstrations leading to repeated scuffles between the two sides, witnesses said.

Mousavi was forced to abandon his plans to take part in the rally after an angry crowd of hardliners attacked his car, the official IRNA news agency said.

Former president Mohammad Khatami, a key supporter of the opposition leader whose 1997 to 2005 term of office saw a thaw in relations with the West, was also assaulted by hardliners before being rescued by riot police, a

reformist website Parlemennews.ir reported.

"During the scuffle, his turban fell off and they wanted to beat him but supporters resisted them and the riot police promptly intervened," the website said.

Khatami's brother Mohammad Reza Khatami said the former president was "nothurt".

"Some people shouted slogans against him," the brother told AFP. "He is home now. He is not hurt and he is fine."

Despite a threat by the elite Revolutionary Guards Corps to crush any attempt to mount protests during the setpiece event, which was the brainchild of revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, witnesses reported no police action during the event.

But as demonstrators headed away from the university district after the main speeches, they clashed with both riot police and hardliners in plain clothes, they said.



Iranian protesters hold up a huge Palestinian flag and anti-Israel placards as they march during a rally marking Quds (Jerusalem) Day in Tehran yesterday. Inset photo shows former president Mohammad Khatami who was assaulted during the rally by pro-government marchers.

PHOTO: AFP

US envoy fails to strike key settlement deal

AFP, Ramallah

US envoy George Mitchell appeared Friday to have failed to secure a key deal on Jewish settlements aimed at paving the way for a resumption of Middle East peace negotiations.

The former senator shuttled between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas on Friday, after having met with both leaders earlier this week.

He has been trying to wrest a compromise on the thorny issue

that would have led to a three-way meeting between Netanyahu, Abbas and US President Barack Obama on the sidelines of next week's UN General Assembly.

"Mitchell told us he did not reach an agreement with the Israelis on freezing settlements," key Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat told reporters after Mitchell held talks with Abbas in the occupied West Bank.

Mitchell met with Abbas after huddling with Netanyahu in the morning and was to hold a second meeting with the pre-

mier in Jerusalem later in the day.

He has been aiming to get some kind of an Israeli moratorium on settlement construction that would be acceptable to the Palestinians and enable the resumption of peace talks that were suspended in late December.

Netanyahu has so far rebuffed US calls to freeze settlement construction in the West Bank, including annexed east Jerusalem, and Palestinians are sticking to their demand for such a halt before negotiations can resume.

Obama focuses on Iran's shorter-range missiles

AFP, Washington

President Barack Obama changed course on missile defence Thursday after drawing different conclusions than his predecessor on the nature of the threat posed by Iran, based on similar US intelligence reports.

In scrapping a defence shield in Europe promoted by former president George W. Bush, Obama emphasised the threat of Iran's short-range and medium-range missiles instead of the potential danger of long-range missiles that Tehran has yet to obtain.

"This is not so much that

we've made a big change in our view of what Iran has, but a decision to emphasize the more immediate threat rather than the longer term threat," Ivan Oelrich, an analyst at the Federation of American Scientists, told AFP.

"We were building the wrong missile defence system for what we thought the Iranians were doing."

He and other analysts said US intelligence agencies apparently have not changed their evaluation of Iran's missile and nuclear programmes, but that a new president had adopted a different response to similar information.



PHOTO: AFP

US Middle East envoy George Mitchell (L) meets Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas in the West Bank city of Ramallah yesterday. George Mitchell told Mahmud Abbas that he has failed to strike a key deal on a settlement halt with Israel, a senior official said.

North Korea willing to open nuclear talks

AFP, Beijing

North Korean leader Kim Jong-il yesterday told a Chinese envoy that he was willing to engage in bilateral and multilateral talks on his country's controversial nuclear programme, Chinese state media said.

The statement was the latest in a series of recent peace overtures made by the secretive regime in Pyongyang following months

of hostility sparked when it stormed out of long-running six-nation disarmament talks in April.

Kim offered the olive branch during a visit to Pyongyang by State Councillor Dai Bingguo of China, North Korea's closest ally and the host of the on-off negotiations on how to end its nuclear drive. The talks began in 2003.

Kim told Dai that Pyongyang "insists on denu-

clearisation" of the Korean peninsula and was "willing to resolve relevant problems via bilateral and multilateral talks", China's state Xinhua news agency reported.

Dai, who arrived in the North Korean capital on Wednesday, delivered a letter from President Hu Jintao during his talks with Kim, which the North's official Korean Central News Agency said unfolded in an "amicable atmosphere".

World's big polluters kick off climate talks

AFP, Washington

Representatives of the world's 17 biggest carbon polluters kicked off a week of high-stakes talks on climate change Thursday with a discussion at the US State Department.

The main aim of the week of meetings is to bridge differences ahead of the UN December 7-18 climate change conference in Copenhagen, where a pact for curbing global warming beyond 2012 -- when Kyoto Protocol obligations on cutting emissions expire -- is to be crafted.

Negotiators will meet for two days at the State

Department in Washington, then move to New York next week and then on to Pittsburgh.

The meetings come as Washington tries to resume a leadership role on climate change, and follow a warning from UN chief Ban Ki-moon that world leaders need to "get moving" on climate change.

Representatives from the European Union, France, Italy, Germany and Britain were at the State Department talks, along with officials representing Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, and host, the United States.

Russia shelves Kaliningrad missile plan

AFP, Moscow

Russia has shelved a plan to place Iskander missiles in its Kaliningrad exclave after the United States dropped its scheme for a missile shield in Eastern Europe, a military

source told the Interfax news agency on Friday.

"Undoubtedly, Washington's cancellation of its missile defence facilities will not remain unnoticed," the source said.

"The array of measures which were planned in response to the deployment of the missile defence sites in Europe will be frozen, and will possibly be completely cancelled," he added.

Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Agriculture.		
2	Agency	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council.		
3	Procuring entity name	Project Implementation Unit (PIU), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Room No. 308, Garage Building (2nd Floor), NATP: Phase-1, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215.		
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.		
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.		
6	Invitation for	Procurement of air cooler.		
7	Invitation Ref No.	GD/PIU-BARC/05/12		
8	Date	15.09.2009		
KEY INFORMATION				
9	Procurement method	National competitive tender (NCT) (open tendering method (OTM)).		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
10	Budget and source of funds	IDA Credit-4386-BD.		
11	Development partners (if applicable)	IDA, IFAD.		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	5-4305-7400		
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP), Phase-1.		
14	Tender package No.	GD/PIU-BARC/05		
15	Tender package name	Procurement of air cooler.		
16	Tender publication date	Not applicable.		
17	Tender last selling date	Up to the day before deadline for submission.		
18	Tender submission date and time	Date-19/10/2009	Time- 12.00 noon	
19	Tender opening date and time	Date-19/10/2009	Time- 12.15pm.	
20	Name & address of the office -Selling tender document -Receiving tender document -Opening tender document -Pre-tender meeting	Director PIU-BARC, Room No-308, Garage Building (2nd Floor), NATP: Phase-1, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215.		
21	Date & time of pre-tender meeting	Date- 05-10-2009	Time- 11.00am.	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
22	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderers from all countries other than Israel who have required qualification as per the tender documents.		
23	Brief description of goods	Air cooler (split type, wall mounted).		
24	Brief description of related services	N/A		
25	Price of tender document (Tk)	Taka 1000/-		
	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)
26	1	12 (twelve) Nos. Air Coolers (split type, wall mounted). 17000-18000 BTU/HR capacity-3 Nos.: 22500-24000 BTU/HR capacity-9 Nos	Dhaka	BDT 20,000/- (twenty thousand)
				Completion time in weeks
				Delivery date (as per incoterms) within 8 weeks from date of contract signing.
27	Name of official inviting tender	Dr Md Abul Kashem.		
28	Designation of official inviting tender	Director		
29	Address of official inviting tender	Project Implementation Unit (PIU), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Room No-308, Garage Building (2nd Floor), NATP: Phase-1, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215.		
30	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 8130756, 9130702	Fax: 9131170	E-mail: reem98k@yahoo.com
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.			
GD-4287		Dr Md Abul Kashem Director		

GD-4287



PHOTO: AFP

Activists from Greenpeace paint anti-fishing slogans on the Panamanian-flagged MV Fong Seong 888 (R) on Thursday. Greenpeace is protesting against over fishing in pockets of the Pacific international waters that are home to vulnerable tuna stocks as Pacific Island nations are calling for the areas to be closed from all fishing activities to protect the declining tuna stocks.

Noordin's body to be sent home as Indonesia hunts followers

AFP, Jakarta

Indonesia will return the body of slain terror mastermind Noordin Mohammed Top to Malaysia, police said Friday, as the focus shifted to the hunt for surviving militants from his network.

"The Malaysian government and Noordin Mohammed Top's family have requested his body so he can be buried in Malaysia. We will give him back to them," national police spokesman Nanan Soekarna told AFP.

"We will complete his DNA test today and hand the body over to the foreign ministry which will arrange to return it to Malaysia," he said.

Noordin, a 41-year-old Malaysian who led a violent splinter faction of the Jemaah Islamiyah radical network, was killed along with three other militants at the bloody

end of a nine-hour siege in a village in central Java on Thursday.

"We wanted so much to catch Noordin alive but there was a firefight. We asked them to surrender but they refused. In fact, they started to shoot at us first," Soekarna said.

Soekarna said the back of Noordin's head was shattered by an "explosion" as police breached a wall in the rented house in which he had holed up with fellow fighters.

Noordin was also shot in the side of his body and leg, he said.

With Noordin dead, Soekarna said police were concentrating their efforts on the search for followers still on the run including Syaifudin Jaenani, a recruitment expert, and Mohamed Syahrir, a former technician for national airline Garuda Indonesia.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বিজ্ঞান এবং তথ্য ও যোগাযোগ প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়
বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা

নং-বিত্যোপ/শা-১২/মাঃউঃমাঃশিঃপ্রঃ/বিঃক্রঃ/অনুদান-২/২০০৯/২৭২ তারিখঃ ১৫-০৯-২০০৯

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয়ঃ ২০০৯-২০১০ অর্থ বছরে বেসরকারি মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান/বিজ্ঞান ক্লাবসমূহে অনুদানের জন্য আবেদন আহ্বান।

বিজ্ঞান ভিত্তিক কার্যক্রমে আর্থিক অনুদান প্রদানের উদ্দেশ্যে দেশের বেসরকারি মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান/বিজ্ঞান ক্লাবসমূহের কাছ থেকে নির্ধারিত ফরমে আবেদন আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। প্রস্তাবিত অনুদান সর্বোচ্চ ৫০,০০০/- টাকা।

২। বেসরকারি মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান/বিজ্ঞান ক্লাব বলতে বাংলাদেশের ভৌগোলিক সীমানায় বিজ্ঞান এবং তথ্য ও যোগাযোগ প্রযুক্তি বিষয়ক কার্যাবলী পরিচালনা/বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি উন্নয়নমূলক কাজ সম্পাদন/বিজ্ঞান বিষয়ক জার্নাল প্রকাশনা এবং সেমিনার/সিম্পোজিয়াম/কর্মশালা/প্রদর্শনী আয়োজনকারী বেসরকারি মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান/বিজ্ঞান ক্লাবকে বুঝাবে। বেসরকারি মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান/বিজ্ঞান ক্লাব বলতে কোন সরকারি মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান/বিজ্ঞান ক্লাবকে বুঝাবে না।

৩। নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরম ও এতদসংক্রান্ত নীতিমালা বিজ্ঞান এবং তথ্য ও যোগাযোগ প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়ের সিনিয়র সহকারী সচিব, কক্ষ নং-৯১৯, ভবন-৬, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা-১০০০ অথবা আবেদনকারীর ঠিকানায় কৃত্রিমভাবে ১০.০০ টাকা মূল্যের ডাকটিকিটযুক্ত খাম উদ্ভেদিত ঠিকানায় ডাকযোগে প্রেরণপূর্বক সংগ্রহ করা যেতে পারে অথবা Website address: www.mosict.gov.bd থেকে ডাউনলোড করে সংগ্রহ করা যেতে পারে। নির্ধারিত ছকে আবেদনপত্র যথাযথভাবে পূরণ করে আবেদনকারীর সত্যায়িত ১ (এক) কপি ছবিসহ আগামী ২৯-১০-২০০৯ তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর ঠিকানায় সরাসরি অথবা ডাকযোগে পৌঁছাতে হবে। নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে কোনো আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে না। নীতিমালার সাথে সঙ্গতি নয় এমন আবেদন অযোগ্য হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে।

৪। প্রস্তাবের মান বিবেচনা করে স্বচ্ছতা ও নিরপেক্ষতার মাধ্যমে অনুদান প্রদান করা হবে। যে কোন রকম তদবীর/ব্যক্তিগত যোগাযোগ অযোগ্যতা হিসেবে গণ্য হবে।

মোহাম্মদ শামীম আলম

সিনিয়র সহকারী সচিব

বিজ্ঞান এবং তথ্য ও যোগাযোগ প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়

ভবন নং-৬, দশম তলা, কক্ষ নং-৯১৯

বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা-১০০০

জিডি-৪৩১০

ফোনঃ ৯৫৫৯৯৩১